

<u>CONTRIBUTIONS</u>	February 10th & 11th
Offertory	\$2473.45
Dues	\$ 285.00
Building Fund	\$ 162.25
Indian Residential Schools	\$ 15.00
Catholic Missions	\$ 50.25
Shepherd's Fund	\$ 70.00

TOTAL **\$3055.95**

E-TRANSFERS

If you wish to e-transfer your donations, please use the following email address: **stephensparish@gmail.com**. For tax receipt purposes, please include your envelope number (if applicable) or mailing address. Tax receipts are issued in the new year.

ESTATE PLANNING & MEMORIAM REQUEST

We encourage Parishioners in their Estate and Funeral Planning to consider donations to their Parish or the Shepherd's Fund Foundation in memory of a loved one. St. Stephen's In Memoriam cards are available at the back of the church, the Parish Office, or Russell's Funeral Home upon request.

FRAGRANT-FREE PLACE OF WORSHIP

Please note that our Parish is a fragrant-free place of worship as we have many parishioners who are asthmatic and/or have severe scent allergies. Thank you.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, February 19th at 7:00 pm
 Late Luke Alexander req. by Percy & Kathy Wheeler
 Late Delores Simon req. by Gertie & Ronald White
 Late Millie White req. by Patricia & Tony Wakeham
Tuesday, February 20th at 7:00 pm
 Late Dorothy Doyle req. by The family
 Late Sister Carmelita MacNeil req. by Marina & Bob Delaney
 Late Scott Sheppard req. by Monica Sheppard
Wednesday, February 21st at 7:00 pm

Late Morgan Snook req. by Rita, Trinity, Mitchel & Robyn
 Late Genevieve Kerr req. by Marg & Wayne Lee
 Late Mary Griffins Ryan req. by Martin Ryan
 Holy Souls req. by Winnie McLeod

Thursday, February 22nd at 9:30 am

Int. Chris & Cathy Penner req. by Theresa Hynes
 Deceased members of the Barter Family req. by donor

Late Wishie Gaudet req. by Mom & Dad

Friday, February 23rd at 9:30 am

Late Damien Drake req. by His Parents
 Late Martie Tourout req. by Rita White
 Late Fred & Dot White Love Jeanette, Jacqueline, Vivienne, Doreen & Melanie

The Sanctuary Candle is Sponsored in memory of Wishie Gaudet

DAILY READINGS, RESPONSORIAL PSALM & GOSPEL:

February 19th to February 23rd

Monday, February 19th

1st Reading: Leviticus 19.1-2, 11-18
 Responsorial Psalm: Ps 19.7, 8, 9,
 14 (R. Jn 6.63b)
 Gospel: Matthew 25.31-46

Tuesday, February 20th

1st Reading: Isaiah 55.10-11
 Responsorial Psalm: Ps 34.3-4, 5-6, 15-16,
 17-18 (R. 17b)
 Gospel: Matthew 6.7-15

Wednesday, February 21st

1st Reading: Jonah 3.1-10
 Responsorial Psalm: Ps 51.1-2, 10-11,
 16-17 (R. 17b)
 Gospel: Luke 11.29-32

Thursday, February 22nd

1st Reading: 1 Peter 5.1-4
 Responsorial Psalm: Ps 23.1-3a, 3b-4, 5,
 6 (R. 1)
 Gospel: Matthew 16.13-19

Friday, February 23rd

1st Reading: Ezekiel 18.21-28
 Responsorial Psalm: Ps 130.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.3)
 Gospel: Matthew 5.20-26

STEWARDSHIP Lifestyle

"After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God...."
 MARK 1:14

Have you ever thought about how difficult it must have been for Jesus to go to Galilee, knowing that John had just been arrested for teaching the same message that He was proclaiming. It took great love and trust for Jesus to do what the Father had sent Him here on earth to do. In the same way, living a **Stewardship** lifestyle takes great love and trust from us. We must be willing to surrender completely to God, trusting that He will always give us all that we need to fulfill His plan for us.

CHURCH HUMOUR

Early one morning the husband and wife were arguing over who should get out of the warm bed to make the coffee. Finally the wife folded her arms and said decidedly, "You have to make the coffee. It's in the Bible!"

The husband was shocked. "Is not! Show me!"

Pulling out her Bible, the wife opened it to one of the New Testament books and declared, "It says right here — HEBRES!"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **World Day of Prayer celebration 2024 will be hosted by St. Stephen's Parish.** It is on Friday, March 1st at 7:00 pm with a social to follow in the downstairs area of the Knights of Columbus building. **All are Welcome and encouraged to attend.**

- **There is a basket** at the back of the church for those who wish to dispose of their palms from last year.
- **During Lent**, starting on **Monday, February 19th**, there will be a Mass on Monday at 7:00 pm. This will continue up to and including **Monday, March 25th**.
- **The Parkinson's Support Group** will be meeting on Sunday, March 3rd from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm in the Knights of Columbus. Care Partners, family members, and home care workers are welcome to attend. See you all on Sunday, March 3rd at 2:00pm.
- **Lenten Folders** are available at the Church entrance. They can be deposited in the offertory collection box at your convenience.
- **Free Workshop.** Digital Basics for Seniors, Wednesday, February 28th, 2024. Please see bulletin board for registration details.
- There will be a **Parish Council meeting** on Wednesday, February 21st at 7:30 pm.

February 18, 2024

First Sunday Of Lent

What Is Lent?

Lent is the penitential season of approximately 40 days set aside by the Church in order for the faithful to prepare for the celebration of the Lord’s Passion, Death and Resurrection. During this holy season, inextricably connected to the Paschal Mystery, the Catechumens prepare for Christian initiation, and current Church members prepare for Easter by a recalling of Baptism and by works of penance, that is, prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Original Text (JGM) by Jennifer Gregory Miller, © Copyright 2003-2023 by Jennifer Gregory Miller

“His victory is our renewal, our “spring” — which is the meaning of the Anglo-Saxon word, “*lengten*” or Lent. In this penitential season we have the opportunity to make an annual spiritual “tune-up”, a 40-day retreat with Our Lord. Have we allowed worldly cares and the “daily drama” to obscure our call to holiness? Have self-love and materialism eroded our relationship with God? Then let us renew our efforts, and through our Lenten observance, discipline the body and master it as we “follow in the footsteps of the poor and crucified Christ”

St. Francis of Assisi

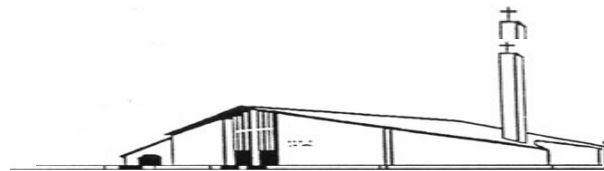
Lenten Prayer:

Dear Lord, we are now in the holy season of Lent. We begin to realize anew that these are the days of salvation, these are the acceptable days. We know that we are all sinners. We know that in many things we have all offended Your infinite majesty. We know that sin destroys Your life in us as a drought withers the leaves and chokes the life from the land, leaving an arid, dusty desert. Help us now, Lord, in our feeble attempts to make up for past sin. Bless our efforts with the rich blessing of Your grace. Make us realize ever more our need of penance and of mortification. Help us to see, in our ordinary difficulties and duties, in the trials and temptations of every day, the best opportunity of making up for past infidelities. Every day we are so often reminded in field and wood, in sky and stream, of Your own boundless generosity to us. Help us to realize that You are never outdone in generosity, and that the least thing we do for You will be rewarded, full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and flowing over. Then we shall see, in our own souls, how the desert can blossom, and the dry and wasted land can bring forth the rich, useful fruit that was expected of it from the beginning. Amen.

Prayer Source: *Rural Life Prayerbook* by Alban J. Dachauer, S.J., National Catholic Rural Life Conference, 4625 Beaver Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50310 ncrlc.com, 1956

St. Stephen’s Parish

78 West Street, Stephenville, NL, A2N 1E4
Tel (709) 643-2523 Fax (709) 643-9745
Email: st.stephens.parish@nf.sympatico.ca
Web: www.ststephensparish.com



February 18, 2024

First Sunday of Lent

Bishop of Corner Brook & Labrador.....	Most Rev. Bart Van Roijen
Pastor.....	Fr. Joseph Kizhakkekuruviathadathil CST
Associate Priest.....	Fr. Jaison Joseph Vizhukipara CST
Parish Council Chair.....	Debbie Wilton
Finance Committee Chair.....	Rosa Dollard
Administrative Assistant.....	Kim Ryan
St. Anne’s Guild President.....	Vacant
Religious Education Coordinator.....	Michelle Hawco
Responsible Ministry Coordinator.....	Theresa Dollimont
Liturgy Coordinator.....	Bernice Maddock
Knights of Columbus.....	Grand Knight Conrad Benoit
4th Degree Assembly.....	Faithful Navigator Bob Miller

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Evening - 6:00 p.m.
Sunday Morning - 10:30 a.m.

REGULAR WEEKDAY MASSES

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

OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday: 1:00 to 4:30 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Closed daily from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

ROSARY GROUP

Saturday at 2:00 pm

MARRIAGES

Six months notice required; a year’s notice recommended

RECONCILIATION

1st Saturday of each month at 2:15 p.m. (or)

recommended.

BAPTISM PREPARATION

Please call parish office to register.

MARIA REGINA PARISH MASS TIMES

Saturdays: 4:30 p.m. & Sundays: 9:00 a.m.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA MASS TIMES

Sunday ‘s at 10:30 am **EXCEPT** every second Sunday

St. Stephens Prayer Group

St. Stephen’s prayer group meets on Tuesday’s at 1:30 pm in the downstairs meeting room.

WELCOME!

If you are new to the area, welcome to St. Stephen’s Parish. If you would like to register as a new parishioner please reach out to the main office.

Priest available 30 minutes before Mass