

CONTRIBUTIONS February 17th & 18th	
Offertory	\$3998.90
Dues	\$ 300.00
Initial Offering	\$ 10.00
Building Fund	\$ 35.00
Indian Residential Schools	\$ 5.00
Catholic Missions	\$ 577.50
New Years Day	\$ 5.00

TOTAL \$4931.40

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 26th at 7:00 pm
Late Luke Alexander req. by Brendon, Renee, Kayla, Sarah, & Amanda Wheeler
Late Delores Simon req. by Gertie & Ronald White
Late Herman Wheeler req. by Medrick & Alvine Rowe & Family
Tuesday, February 27th at 7:00 pm
Late Daniel & Richard Quann req. by Rita, Trinity, Mitchel & Robyn

Late Millicent Penton req. by Lucy Tourout
Late Luke Alexander req. by Cecilia Smith
Wednesday, February 28th at 7:00 pm
Late Millicent Penton req. by Marg & Wayne Lee
Late Mildred White req. by Colleen & Ben O'Leary
Youth Intentions req. by donor
Thursday, February 29th at 9:30 am
Late Millicent Penton req. by Rosemary & Desmond Hann
Late Mildred White req. by donor
Late Carol Anne Peddle req. by Betty & Junior
Friday, March 1st at 9:30 am - Healing Mass
Late Kevin McCarthy req. by donor
Late Millicent Penton req. by Mary Cooper
Late Jason White req. by Brian & Rita White

DAILY READINGS, RESPONSORIAL

PSALM & GOSPEL:
February 26th to March 1st

Monday, February 26th
1st Reading: Daniel 9.3, 4b-10++
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 79.8, 9, 11+ 13 (R.102,10a)
Gospel: Luke 6.36-38
Tuesday, February 27th
1st Reading: Isaiah 1.10,16-20, 27-28, 31++
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 50.8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23 (R.23b)
Gospel: Matthew 23.1-12
Wednesday, February 28th
1st Reading: Jeremiah 18.18-20
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 31.4-5, 13, 14-15 (R.16b)
Gospel: Matthew 20.17-28
Thursday, February 29th
1st Reading: Jeremiah 17.5-10
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 1.1-2, 3, 4+6 (R.40.5a)
Gospel: Luke 16.19-31
Friday, March 1st
1st Reading: Genesis 37.3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 105.16-17, 18-19, 20-21 (R.5a)
Gospel: Matthew 21.33-43, 45-46

STEWARDSHIP Stewards are Called
"Here I am!" he answered. GENESIS 22:11
It is easy to say, "Here I am, Lord," when we are kneeling in church. But how easy is it to say "Here I am, Lord," when a neighbor needs our help, or when we are invited to join a parish ministry, or when we are asked to provide financial support? Often times **Stewards** are called when it's not convenient for us. Discipleship is not easy, most of the time it will make us uncomfortable and vulnerable.

CHURCH HUMOUR "Wedding White"

A little girl finally got to attend a wedding for the first time. While in the church, the girl asked her mother: "Why is the bride dressed in white?" The mother replied to the girl: "because white is the color of happiness and it's the happiest day of her life today."
After a little bit, the girl looks up at her mother and says: "But, then why is the groom wearing black?"

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.**
- Anyone who performs **Volunteer work** in the Parish is asked to complete a **Covenant of Care** for our Parish records. If you are a reader, greeter, communion minister, member of any committee, cross bearer, sacristan or other. Forms are located at the Church entrance. Please place completed form in the offertory collection box or return to the Parish Office no later than March 17th, 2024.
- **Stations of the Cross** will take place on Fridays at 7:00 pm starting Friday, March 8 to Good Friday.
- **During Lent** the Church will be opened during the day between 8:30 am and 8:00 pm.

- **The Chrism Mass** will take place on Wednesday, March 20 at 7:00 pm in Corner Brook at the Cathedral of the Most Holy Redeemer and of the Immaculate Conception. There is a sign up sheet at the Church entrance for those who would like to attend. Transportation is provided by the Knights of Columbus. Deadline for sign up is March 18th.
- **Lenten Folders** are available at the Church entrance. They can be deposited in the offertory collection box at your convenience.
- **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.
- **The Financial Statement** for 2023 is completed and available at the back of the Church.
- There will be a **Healing Mass** on Friday, March 1st at 9:30 am
- All **Schedules** for the different ministries are available at the Church entrance.

February 25, 2024

Second Sunday Of Lent

Why Forty Days?

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which is actually forty-six days before Easter. We say that Lent is forty days in number because the six Sundays are excluded from the rigors of Lent in order to afford the faithful a time to pause and rejuvenate, gathering new strength. Since the restructuring of the Liturgical Year after Vatican II, the Easter Triduum, which begins on Holy Thursday, is not included in the Lenten season, so the actual days of rigorous Lenten observance are approximately forty days.

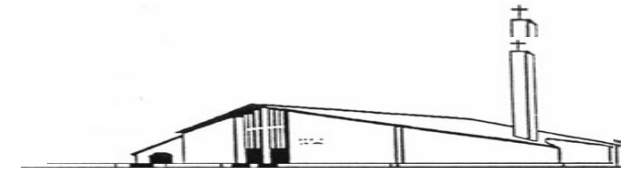
The number forty is found frequently in scripture to signify either a time of penitential preparation, or a time of punishment and affliction sent from God. The Old Testament is replete with examples of the use of forty: God punished mankind by sending a flood over the earth that lasted forty days and forty nights (Gen 7:12); the people of Ninevah repented with forty days of fasting when Jonah preached the destruction of Ninevah (Jonah 3:4); Moses and the Hebrew people wandered in the desert for forty years (Num 14:34); the Prophet Ezekiel had to lie on his right side for forty days as a figure of the siege that was to bring Jerusalem to destruction (Ez 4:6); the Prophet Elijah fasted and prayed on Mount Horeb for forty days (1 Kings 19:8); and finally, Moses fasted forty days and forty nights while on Mt. Sinai (Ex 34:28).

In the New Testament we find Our Lord fasting and praying for forty days and forty nights in the desert in preparation for the public ministry that would end in his redeeming death (Luke 5:35). He is the new Adam who overcomes the temptations of the devil and remains faithful to God; the new Israel, who reveals himself as God’s Servant by his total obedience to the divine will, in contrast to those who provoked God in the desert. The Church sets aside the forty days of Lent in order that we might imitate Our Lord by our fasting, prayer, self-denial and good works, and thereby prepare our hearts for an Easter renewal. “By the solemn forty days of Lent the Church unites herself each year to the mystery of Jesus in the desert.” (*Catholic Catechism*, #540).

Activity Source: *Original Text (JGM)* by Jennifer Gregory Miller, © Copyright 2003-2023 by [Jennifer Gregory Miller](https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/activities/view.cfm?id=1022) <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/activities/view.cfm?id=1022>

St. Stephen’s Parish

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February 25, 2024

Second Sunday of Lent

- Bishop of Corner Brook & Labrador Most Rev. Bart Van Roijen
- Pastor Fr. Joseph Kizhakkekuruvidatathil 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