

CONTRIBUTIONS January 27th & 28th

Offertory	\$	2356.00
Dues	\$	315.00
Building Fund	\$	75.00
Initial Offerings	\$	33.00
Indian Residential Schools	\$	30.00
Catholic Missions	\$	50.00
New Years Day	\$	10.00
TOTAL	\$	2869.00

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

Tuesday, February 6th at 7:00 pm
 Late Sister Carmelita MacNeil req. by donor
 Late Richard MacIntosh req. by Vivian
 Late Francis Gale req. by Madeline Campbell

Wednesday, February 7th at 7:00 pm
 Int. Michelle Webb req. by donor
 Late Norman and Mary Besaw req. by Gerard Besaw
 Late Jack & Blanche Hynes req. by Sis & Maurice

Hynes
Thursday, February 8th at 9:30 am
 Late Mr. & Mrs. Correa and Mr. & Mrs. Cook req. by Edward Correa
 Late Jeremy White req. by donor
 Late Marian Furey req. by Cis & Maurice Hynes

Friday, February 9th at 9:30 am - Healing Mass
 Late Sister Carmelita MacNeil req. by Marina & Bob DeLaney
 Late Francis Gale Req. by Carmel Delahunty
 Late George Hynes req. by Cis & Maurice Hynes

The Sanctuary Candles are sponsored in memory of Paul Primeau and Shirley Flynn Primeau.

STEWARDSHIP Stewardship Prayer

“Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed... He told them, ‘Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come.’” MARK 1:35, 38

In today’s Gospel reading we see a perfect example of Stewardship. Jesus gives His time to do all that God wishes - healing the sick and preaching. But before He begins, Jesus takes time to be alone with God in prayer. It is through prayer, spending time with God, that we are given the graces

CHURCH HMOUR

Humor at Sunday collection: During the last Sunday service that the visiting pastor was to spend at the Church he had served for some months, his hat was passed around for goodwill, farewell offering. When it returned to the pastor, it was empty. The pastor didn’t flinch. He raised the hat to Heaven. “I thank you, Lord, that I got my hat back from this congregation.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** is an annual global ecumenical celebration (traditionally held January 18-25 in the northern hemisphere). Christians around the world are invited to pray for the unity of all the baptized; to reflect together on Scripture; to participate in jointly-organized worship services; and to share in acts of outreach and fellowship. The theme for 2024 is drawn from Luke 10:27:
“You shall love the Lord your God...and your neighbour as yourself.”
 This year the Christian Unity Prayer Service is scheduled for **7:00 pm Wednesday, February 7th at the Salvation Army Church**, 147 Hansen Memorial Hwy. **All are welcome and encouraged to attend.**
- There will be a **Volunteer Appreciation and a Farewell Mass for Father Patry and Father Loko** on Thursday, February 8th at 6:00 pm; a Social will follow in the Knights of Columbus building. **All are welcome.**
- **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.**
- The 2nd meeting of the **Parkinson's support group** will meet the first Sunday of the month, February 4th, 2024 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. The meeting will take place in the Knights of Columbus building on West St.. Care partner, family members and home care workers are welcome to attend. See you all on Sunday, February 4th at 2:00 pm.
- **There is a basket** at the back of the church for those who wish to dispose of their palms from last year. These will be burned and the ashes used on Ash Wednesday.

FROM FEAST TO FAST

Though the shortest month of the year, February is rich in Liturgical activity. It contains a feast (Presentation of our Lord) that bridges two other seasons (Christmas and Easter)! The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd harkens back to the Christmas mystery of Light except that now, Christ, the helpless babe, is “the Light of Revelation to the Gentiles who will save his people from their sins.” Candles, symbolizing Christ our Light, will be carried in procession this day, as will be the Paschal candle during the Easter Vigil Liturgy. In addition, the faithful may receive in February three of the four major public sacramental's that the Church confers during the liturgical year: blessed candles and the blessing of throats and blessed ashes.

"The Light of Revelation" shines more brightly with each successive Sunday of Ordinary Time, until its magnificence—exposing our sinfulness and need for conversion—propels us into the penitential Season of Lent. We prepare to accept the cross of blessed ashes on Ash Wednesday (February 22) and plunge ourselves into anticipating the major exercises of Lent—fasting, prayer, almsgiving—laying our thoughts and prayers on the heart of our Mother Mary. She, who offered her Son in the temple and on the Cross, will teach us how to deny ourselves, take up our cross daily, and follow after her Son.

February 4, 2024

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Overview for the Month of February

This year the first half of February falls during the liturgical season known as Tempus per Annum or Ordinary Time (formerly Time After Epiphany), which is represented by the liturgical color green. Green is a symbol of hope, as it is the color of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection. The liturgical color green is worn during prayer of Offices and Masses of Ordinary Time. The remaining days of February are the beginning of Lent. The liturgical color changes to violet or purple — a symbol of penance, mortification and the sorrow of a contrite heart.

Highlights of the Month

The month of February is traditionally dedicated to the Holy Family. Between the events which marked Christmas and the beginning of Christ's public life the Church has seen fit to recall the example of the Holy Family for the emulation of the Christian family.

The Feast of the Presentation (February 2) or Candlemas forms a fitting transition from Christmas to Easter. The small Christ-Child is still in His Mother's arms, but already she is offering Him in sacrifice. February 13, Shrove Tuesday, will find us preparing for Ash Wednesday. The middle of the month will find us on Ash Wednesday accepting the ashes that remind us of our mortality and our need for penance.

The saints that we will focus on this month and try to imitate are:

St. Blaise	February 3
St. Agatha	February 5
St. Jerome Emiliani and St. Josephine Bakhita	February 8
St. Scholastica	February 10
Seven Founders of the Orders of Servites	February 17
St. Peter Damian	February 21
Chair of St. Peter	February 22
and St. Polycarp	February 23

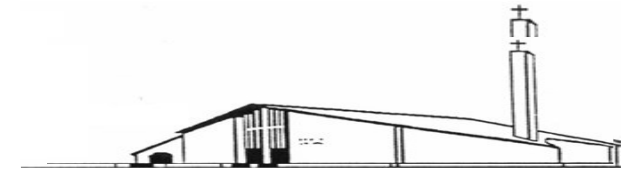
The feast of Our Lady of Lourdes (February 11), is superseded by the Sunday Liturgy. The Memorial of Sts. Cyril and Methodius (February 14) is superseded by Ash Wednesday liturgy.

The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of February 2024

For the New Martyrs: We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm

St. Stephen's Parish

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February 4, 2024

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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)

SPECIAL WELCOME

To Father Joseph and Father Jaison who have been assigned to St. Stephen's Parish effective February 1st, 2024.

Priest available 30 minutes before Mass

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.