

CONTRIBUTIONS January 20th & 21st

Offertory	\$2255.30
Dues	\$ 580.00
Building Fund	\$ 5.00
Initial Offerings	\$ 28.00
Indian Residential Schools	\$ 325.00
Shepherd's Fund	\$ 100.00

TOTAL \$3293.30

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, January 30th at 7:00 pm

Int. Dana Vacher req. by Gwen Harnett
Late Diane Lush req. by donor
Late Sister Carmelita MacNeil req. by Mary O'Quinn

Wednesday, January 31st at 7:00 pm

Youth intentions req. by donor
Late Diane Lush req. by Bernie & Terry White

Late Sister Carmelita MacNeil req. by King & Joy Families

Thursday, February 1st at 9:30 am

Late Cormier & Bruce family members req. by Martina Cormier

Late Domody Family Members req. by Sheila Bennett

Late Francis Gale req. by The Chaulk Family

Friday, February 2nd at 9:30 am

Healing Mass

Late Dorothy Doyle req. by The family

Late Sister Carmelita MacNeil req. by Marina & Bob Delaney

Late Scott Sheppard req. by Monica Sheppard

STEWARDSHIP Stewards Pray

"Brothers and sisters: I should like you to be free of anxieties." - 1 CORINTHIANS 7:32

How much anxiety do we bring upon ourselves by constantly worrying about not having enough or attaining more things? God won't necessarily give you everything you want, but He will provide everything you need. Try this – use the word "pray" instead of the word "worry" in the future. Then, in **Stewardship** spend your time praying instead of worrying.

CHURCH HUMOUR A Weak Voice

The pastor cleared his throat as he approached the pulpit. "I'm sorry if my voice sounds a bit weak today," he told the congregation. "There's been some sickness going around the office, and you all know I hate to be left out of anything."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **2024 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Theme**

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.

• 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.

• **The Knights of Columbus** Council meeting will take place on Thursday, February 1st at 8:00 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 burnt and the ashes used on Ash Wednesday.

• It has come to our attention that there is an issue regarding **people wearing scented products**. Please remember, there are individuals who have severe allergies to scented products. Please refrain from wearing such products when attending Mass or any function in the Parish, so everyone can enjoy all aspects of our Church Community.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Congratulations to Layla Rose Francis & Theo Andrew Michael Young who were baptized this weekend here in St. Stephen's Church. They are the newest members of our Catholic Christian Community. Layla Rose Francis is the daughter of Curtis Daniel Francis & Kelly Athena Barry. Theo Andrew Michael Young is the son of Patrick Gerard Young & Alexis Young.

Thank You Parishioners

Father Loko would like to thank you for your support and acceptance of him in serving in your parish for the past six months.

He was honored by it and will keep you in his prayers.

Grant us, Lord our God, that we may honor you with all our mind, and love everyone in truth of heart. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.



January 28, 2024

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sin and Grace (From Catechism of the Catholic Church)

A Free Irrevocable Choice (392-393)

Demons made a free irrevocable choice to reject God. This rebellion is reflected in the tempter's words, "You will be like God" (Gen 3:5). Having sinned from the beginning, the devil is now "the father of lies" (Jn 8:44).

God's mercy toward these fallen angels is useless. Their sin is unforgivable because their choice is irrevocable. "There is no repentance for the angels, just as there is no repentance for men after death" (St. John Damascene).

Disastrous Influence (394-395)

Because of the devil's disastrous influence, Jesus came to earth "to destroy the works of the devil" (1 Jn 3:8), especially his power to seduce man to disobedience.

Satan's power is not infinite and he cannot prevent the building up of God's kingdom. Although Satan can cause grave injuries (both spiritual and physical) God still guides all human history. Why God permits demonic activity is a mystery. "We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him" (Rom 8:28).

“We are creatures with nothing of our own to boast of. We were created by God, and every talent or power we possess was given us by God. God's benevolence could have stopped there and we would have no right to complain. But when we recall the special gifts he gave man, which raise him above all other created things, we see that he could not, because of his own infinitely benevolent nature, leave us to an earthly fate. What thinking man could be content with a short span of life on earth? What real purpose in life could an intelligent being have who knew that nothing awaited him but eternal oblivion in the grave? What fulfillment would man's intellectual faculties find in a few years of what is for the majority of people perpetual struggle for earthly survival? No, God created us to elevate us, after our earthly sojourn, to an eternal existence where all our desires and potentialities would have their true fulfillment. Hence the incarnation, hence the life, death and resurrection of Christ, who was God's Son, as the central turning point of man's history.”

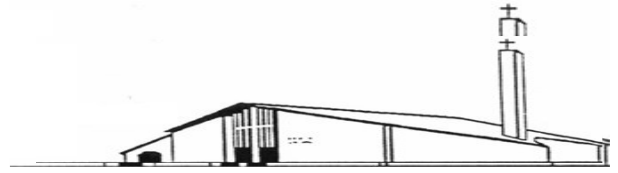
Excerpted from The Sunday Readings by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M. <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/calendar/day.cfm?date=2024-01-28>



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St. Stephen's Parish

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January 28, 2024

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Bishop of Corner Brook & Labrador.....	Most Rev. Bart Van Roijen
Administrator.....	Fr. Gerard Patry
Associate Priest.....	Fr. Assiongbon Loko
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