



St. John Baptiste de LaSalle Catholic Church

275 C.C. Wright School Road
North Wilkesboro NC 28659-9103
336-838-5562
Email: Info@StJohnNC.Org
Website: www.StJohnNC.Org



St. Stephen Catholic Church

101 Hawthorne Road
Elkin NC 28621-3016
336-835-3007
Email: connect@ststephennc.org
Website: www.ststephennc.org

Fr. John D. Hanic 704-763-2475

Rev. Mr. Harold Markle 336-466-4173

Sister Janis McQuade, S.S.J. 336-835-4542

Fr. Jose Rebaque 203-954-7134

Mr. Cuauhdemoc (Temoc) Herrejon 828-773-2353

St. John

Mary Buran, Karen Huffman Music Ministry
Sabrina Caudill Parish Accountant
336-957-1295
Laura Yanes Bookkeeper, Census
Ann Stone RCIA

St. Stephen

Theresa Martin Music Ministry
Natalie Lopez Youth Faith Formation
Peggy Reikowsky Youth Faith Formation
Phillip Parriah RCIA

Worship Times

Saturday Vigil Mass, 4:00p
Sunday Mass 11:15a; En español, 1:00p
Daily Mass, Holy Days Consult bulletin
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturdays, 3:00-4:00p

Sunday Mass 9:00a
Communion Service Tuesdays, 12:15p
Holy Days 7:00p
Sacrament of Reconciliation
By appointment

Welcome, New Parishioners

We are a Stewardship Community, sharing our time, talent, and treasure, in the most life-giving ways possible. Parishioners are expected to participate in weekly worship, in our community life, and in our service among our dear neighbors.

Sacramental Life ~ Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Matrimony

For Sacrament preparation, you must be a registered, active member and attend preparation sessions.

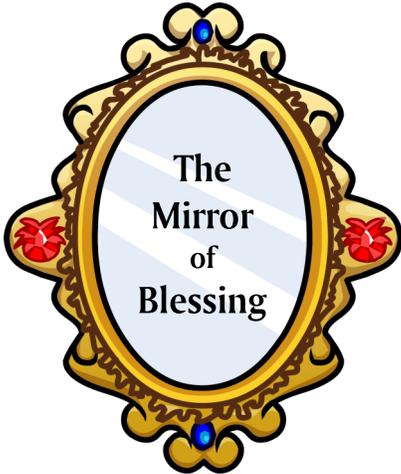
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

For those who desire to explore the Catholic Faith, spirituality, customs, and practices.

Anointing of the Sick

For those with chronic illness or who are pre-surgery, contact Father John or Sister Janis

**30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 23, 2022**



Morning Church!

Comparisons are useless. An SSJ Villa sister once said, “...*you can always find someone who’s taller, nicer, smarter, better looking, kinder, richer, poorer, or shorter than you. Comparing yourself to others is energy wasted.*” In Sirach (Reading I) we hear, “God has no favorites.” Yet, we continue to struggle to keep our hearts aligned with God and our Dear Neighbor.

Jesus flipped social and religious realities. He proclaimed the Reign of God through Divine Reversals! Today’s parable juxtaposes a well-respected religious member of the community, a Pharisee, with a tax collector, a despised Publican. The Pharisee’s prayer, in his own words, is *not God-centered*.

“The Pharisee took his position and spoke his prayer to himself...
...while holding others in contempt...”

Imagine a corporate executive bragging about his success juxtaposed with a hardworking janitorial staff who strive to support their families by cleaning his corporate offices. They humbly do their jobs and don’t expect a high five. The exec and Pharisee seem to thrive on self-importance and on their temporal, temporary triumphs. The operative word here: *temporary*.

What’s the payoff for judging and comparing yourself with others? Does mentally or verbally putting others down, making them “less” in your eyes, make you feel better? Perhaps this is *schadenfreude*? Our retired Villa SSJ says it’s a waste of time, and more significantly, a waste of grace.

Comparisons or judgment is fear-based. Yet, this spiritual handicap is a Mirror of Blessing. It’s God’s way of helping you see and know things about *yourself*, your choices, behaviors, and priorities. God’s trying to get your attention and invite you to make changes *in yourself*, by what you find *repulsive in others*. It takes courage to look into The Mirror of Blessing. So pray for courage and humility to see and change what you observe. Ask God to transform you to become more Christlike than

The janitors and the tax collector are our teachers. Their humility is a most-needed virtue. Humble, (*humus*) means, of the earth, of dirt. “Remember you are dust and to dust...” is a reality check when ego, bragging, comparing yourself to others, is embedded in your heart. This myopic view is spiritual, hindering handicap.

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Hypocrite comes *actor*. The Pharisee acts as if he honors his faith’s Tradition while judging others. Jesus said those who hold Tradition over God are hypocrites. Behind the mask of Tradition, is the hidden feeling of inadequacy. Wearing the mask of position, the exec and the Pharisee assert their power, influence and authority. They hope their position enables them to do what pleases them and enhances their lives. This mask is self-destructing. When it’s gone, their true pretense is revealed: selfishness. As Halloween approaches, commit to removing all your masks that hinder spiritual growth.

Admittedly, there is a pharisee and tax collector in all of us. What is needed is humility and a prayer life that graces you to stop making comparisons and, instead, choose to love inclusively, i.e., be more Christlike.

God’s blessings,

🌿 *Reflecting and Acting on The Word* 🌿

As you look in The Mirror of Blessings, what is Jesus asking you to see and change in your life?

Readings <https://bible.usccb.org/>

OCTOBER	
	23 30th Sun OT FAMILY FAITH FORMATION after Mass 
	24 SSJ Christian Growth Group 10-1:00p
	25 Communion Service, 12:15p
	26 RCIA; Choir, 7p 
	30 31st Sun OT NO FFF Trunk or Treat Bring dish soap & toilet paper for Tri-C
	31 SSJ Zoom 4-6:30p
NOVEMBER	
	01 All Saints Day, Mass, 7p
	02 All Souls Day RCIA; Choir, 7p 
	05 FALL BACK one HOUR
	06 32nd Sun OT FAMILY FAITH FORMATION after Mass
	07 SSJ Zoom 4-6:30p
	08 Communion Service, 12:15p Exercise your freedom & privilege to VOTE!!
	09 RCIA; Choir, 7p 
	11 Veteran's Day ~ Thank you for your service!!
	13 33rd Sun OT STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY Give Out of Gratitude for God's Goodness FAMILY FAITH FORMATION after Mass
	14 SSJ Zoom 4-6:30p
	15 Communion Service, 12:15p
	16 RCIA; Choir, 7p 
	17 Wise Ones TBA 
	19 Men's Breakfast, Cracker Barrel, 8:30a
	20 Christ Our King FAMILY FAITH FORMATION after Mass
	21 SSJ Zoom 4-6:30p GIVE BLOOD Elkin Rescue Cntr, 1:30-6p 
	22 Communion Service, 12:15p
	23 RCIA; Choir, 7p 
	24 Happy Thanksgiving!!
	27 1st Advent NO FFF
	29 Communion Service, 12:15p

☘ Mass Intentions	
10/23	+Phil Altemueller r/b Gayle +Carter Chu (1st Anniv) r/b Debbie & Phillip P +Karen Arlene Glenn r/b Carol Ross Denise McQuade Birthday
10/30	+Carol & Richard Brocci r/b Aileen & Brett Blass

Parish Celebrations



25 Beth Altemueller
26 Ramona Doyle
Walter Nelson



19 Katrina & Joshua Baskey
25 Samantha & Andrew Ange
Rosa & Jose Islas



Altar Flower ~ October 23

In honor and memory of
Carter Chu

July 1, 2005 - October 23, 2021
Elkin H.S. Class of 2023

INVITATION

Prayer Service & Tree Planting Ceremony

Sunday, October 23 ~ 3:00p

Gather at Elkin Rec parking lot

Elkin H.S. Seniors, Class of 2023



...to new parishioners, **Jacque Darcey**, who's helping create wonderful posts on our Instagram...and **John Darcey** who's serving on our Youth Faith Fusion Team...to our Greeters/Ushers, **Tom C, Bob H, Wendy, Jason & Lukas McC, & Frank S**, the first face of St. S...to **Bill Bresse**, for his faithful service to Lorraine each week & for faithfully serving at Tri-C Ministries...to **Theresa, Mary, John, Marcus, and Peggy** who serve as cantors at Mass with reverence and presence...

Thanks so much!

**Our Lady,
Queen of Peace,
pray for us!**



Putin declared martial law in four
Moscow-controlled areas of
Ukraine and has begun
a massive evacuation plan there.

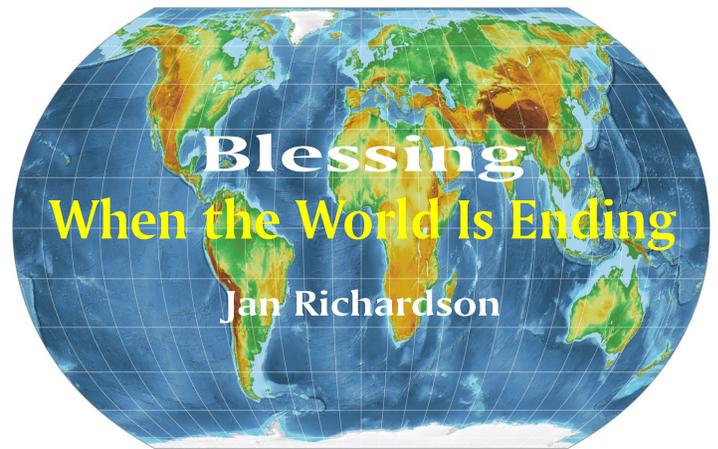
If you haven't prayed daily
for an end to this awful war,
today's the day to start.

This war proves *all of us*
are part of the Body of Christ.

**We cannot deny
we are one family.**

What are the consequences
of failing to act now and stand
against this oppression?

Many.



Look, the world
is always ending
somewhere.

Somewhere
the sun has come
crashing down.

Somewhere
it has gone
completely dark.

Somewhere
it has ended
with the gun
the knife
the fist.

Somewhere
it has ended
with the slammed door
the shattered hope.

Somewhere
it has ended
with the utter quiet
that follows the news
from the phone
the television
the hospital room.

But, listen,
this blessing means
to be anything
but morose.

It has not come
to cause despair.
It is simply here
because there is nothing
a blessing
is better suited for
than an ending,
nothing that cries out more
for a blessing
than when a world
is falling apart.

This blessing
will not fix you
will not mend you
will not give you
false comfort;
it will not talk to you
about one door opening
when another one closes.

It will simply
sit itself beside you
among the shards
and gently turn your face
toward the direction
from which the light
will come,
gathering itself
about you
as the world begins
again.



**St. Stephen
Monthly Donation
OCTOBER
Sm. dish liquid soap**

**NOVEMBER
Bar Soap**

**DECEMBER
Dry Beans**



Be humble.

In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells the story about two men praying in the temple. One of them, a Pharisee, always looked like he loved God, but on the inside he really only loved himself. The other man was a tax collector. The people in those days hated tax collectors because they took too much money and worked for their enemies.

When the Pharisee was praying he was really just telling God how much better he was than other people. Do you think that God was pleased with his prayer?



The tax collector, on the other hand, was standing far off and prayed to God with his head bowed down, asking God to have mercy on him. He knew that he was a sinner and he needed God's help. Do you think that God was pleased with the tax collector's prayer?

Being humble isn't a sad or bad thing. It means knowing that all the good things we have and do come from God. Being humble also lets us be sorry for the selfish things we have done, because it lets us admit that it was our own fault and God can help us overcome our selfishness.

*Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
have mercy on me a sinner!*

Answers to Match-up: 1.the good fight 2.the race 3.the faith
4.strength 5.the message 6.glorify for ever and ever.

The Kids' Bulletin

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 23rd, 2022

...nsm lufniz szoht
skil ton me I toht
boD ,noy knoht I



*What were the two
men in the Temple
saying to God in
today's Gospel
reading?*

*Look in the mirror to
find out!*

Luke 18:9-14

Saint Narcissus

October 29



ST. NARCISSUS LIVED UNTIL HE WAS MORE THAN A HUNDRED YEARS OLD, SERVING GOD AND HIS PEOPLE WITH GREAT LOVE. YOU CAN SEE FROM HIS STORY THAT EVEN OLD PEOPLE CAN SERVE GOD AND DO GREAT THINGS FOR HIM. DO YOU KNOW ANY OLD PEOPLE WHO CAN HELP YOU TO LOVE GOD MORE?

Saint Paul Match-Up

What comes next?

Match up the first parts with the next parts from today's second reading.

1. I have fought ■ strength
2. I have finished ■ the faith
3. I have kept ■ the good fight
4. The Lord gave me ■ the message.
5. so that the Gentiles could hear ■ glory forever and ever.
6. To Him be ■ the race

