



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 Yanas	Bookeeper, 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

Second Sunday of Lent
February 25, 2023

*Morning Church!*

Do the gritty, blest ashes we received a few days ago continue to preach to us that we are *mortal*, we need to pay attention to and be more intentional about our faithjourney. Were those sacramental ashes on your forehead also a sacramental sign on your heart as well? Are these ashes a grace of invitation to surrender completely to God, or an annual Ash Wednesday ritual?

Ask Abraham about surrender! God led him to a murderous mountain where he would be asked to sacrifice his beloved son, Isaac. His courageous surrender to God's will fortified his faith. Then God promised Abraham and Sarah that their descendants would outnumber the stars and the sand on the shore. This is God's Covenant promise and unbreakable bond with *all* who believe, surrender, and obey, as Abraham did.

St. Paul challenges us to believe and obey. Knowing and trusting God is with and for us encourages us to journey through these desert days with Abraham and Sarah's wholehearted surrender. Surrendering our hearts, our wills — our very lives to God — is a spiritual transfiguration of The Beloved.

Consider this in a world of impermanence: our Covenant with God is an *eternal bond of love*. It is not a contract; it has no time stamp, it has no limits. This sacred Covenant comes with its loving tests and graces God has prepared for us on the Holy Mountain of our Transfiguration. When we commit to doing God's will, when we surrender to our Covenant of our beloved Baptism, then, and only then, will we reap the fruits of our sacramental ashes. Then, and only then, will every prayer we ever pray, and any thing we ever do in Christ's Name, continue to grace us. Our surrenders keep our hands and our hearts open for the next complete surrender to the Beloved.

Continuing our faithjourney, we pay attention to what we saw and heard on the Mountain of Transfiguration. We pray to be intentional about how we live our glorious faith in The Beloved ~ in the Domestic Church at home, in our parish of St. Stephen, and in God's Neighborhood. We pray for the humility and the courage to drop to our knees and

“...see only Jesus” “...who died..was raised...and who intercedes for us.”

In CommUNITY,

🌸 **HEARTwork** ~ Reflecting and Acting on The Word ~

What transfiguration do you desire in your faithlife?

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

Dazzling ~ Jan Richardson

Believe me, I know
how tempting it is
to remain inside this blessing,
to linger where everything
is dazzling
and clear.

We could build walls
around this blessing,
put a roof over it.
We could bring in
a table, chairs,
have the most amazing meals.
We could make a home.
We could stay.

Believe me, I know
how tempting it is
to remain inside this blessing,
to linger where everything
is dazzling
and clear.

But this blessing
is built for leaving.
This blessing
is made for coming down
the mountain.
This blessing
wants to be in motion,
to travel with you
as you return
to level ground.

It will seem strange
how quiet this blessing becomes
when it returns to earth.
It is not shy.
It is not afraid.

It simply knows
how to bide its time,
to watch and wait,
to discern and pray
until the moment comes
when it will reveal
everything it knows,
when it will shine forth
with all that it has seen,
when it will dazzle
with the unforgettable light
you have carried
all this way.

FEBRUARY	
18	1st Sun Lent RCIA Rite of Election Faith Formation, 10:30-12N
19	Give Blood Rescue Squad, 1:30-6p
20	Ministerial Assoc., 12N; Communion Service, 12:15p
21	RCIA, 6p; Choir, 7p
23	Stations of the Cross, 6p
24	2nd Sun Lent Faith Formation, 10:30-12N
27	Communion Service, 12:15p
28	RCIA, 6p; Choir, 7p

Mass Intentions	
25	+Thomas Patrick Rosser +Penny Davis; +Denis Cahill
03	+Cecelia Jones r/b Ladies Guild
10	+Carol McQuade; +Dorothy Hanic
17	Kate Delanoy; Larry Liss

Birthdays & Anniversaries



+S. Elaine Cullen, SSJ	
<i>Born</i>	May 3, 1939
<i>Born to Eternal Life</i>	February 19, 2024
in the 67 th year of religious life	



- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 19 Ryan Treannie | 24 Andrew Ange |
| 22 Julie Colglazier | Laura Barrientos |
| Wendy McClamrock | 25 Hector Hernandez |
| 23 Gabby LaCashio | Ray Hernandez |
| Margarita Serafin | 26 Catalina Hernandez |

LENTEN FAST & ABSTINENCE

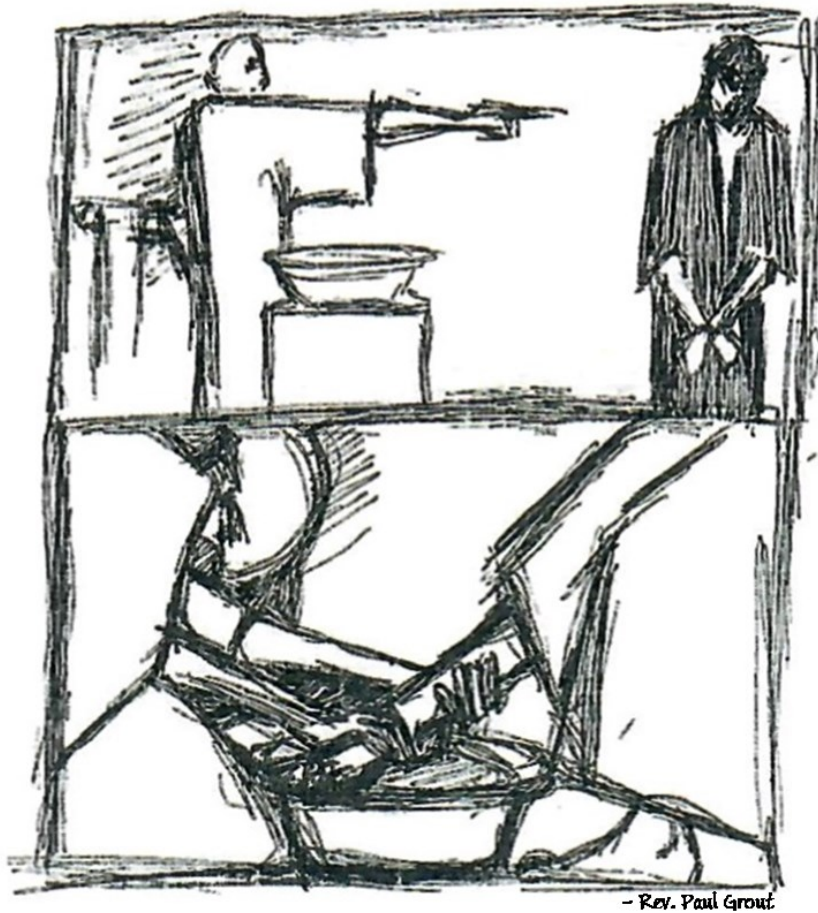
- ☞ All Catholics 14 years and older are to **ABSTAIN** from all meat on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays of Lent, unless a particular Friday is a solemnity.
- ☞ **FASTING** means one full meal and two lesser meals, which combined are not greater than the full meal.

PRAYER, FASTING & ALMSGIVING

Lent means *Spring*, a time of new life, new beginnings, and new growth. These days are for our own renewal in faith, through a recommitment to our **PRAYER LIFE**. Pray for yourself; the growing concerns for national and world compassionate justice, stability, peace, and security.

It greatly helps you if you link your **FASTING** to an intention. Not snacking/eating between meals can selfishly be an incentive to lose weight. Linked to a prayerful intention elevates your **FASTING** to a spiritual mindfulness, e.g., **FAST** for all who are *truly starving*; **FAST** with the desire, through God's grace, to uncover and heal your own brokenness. **FAST** that your heart and the hearts of all your Neighbors will be disarmed and desire reconciliation.

ALMSGIVING seems uncomplicated ~ just drop money in our Poor Box; donate to Tri-C Ministries or The Ark. Consider **ALMSGIVING** of your time, talent, or your treasure in a *new way*: listen to someone who's hurt or confused; call someone who's isolated from family or the community; send a card to encourage someone; offer your talents to those who need help with technology, a home repair, or a ride to the store. **ALMSGIVING** is serving with Intention and not expecting a pay back.



- Rev. Paul Grout

*I watch what I do
to see what I believe.*

~ Helen Prejean, CSJ



Empty Bowls

Yadkin Christian Ministries

TAKE OUT or DRIVE THROUGH PICKUP

Yadkinville Moose Lodge

1432 Country Club Rd, Yadkinville

March 19, 2024

Lunch: 11:30a-1:30p

Dinner: 4:30p-6:30p

Tickets: \$25.00

Meal includes:

Cracker Barrel vegetable beef soup,
Taste of Italy salad, crackers, Krispy Kreme donuts,
bottled water, and a handcrafted bowl

Tri-C Almsgiving

Thank you so much !!

FEB

Corn meal

MAR

Sm. laundry soap

**Feed the Elderly: An Opportunity
for Compassionate, Generous Service**

Jan	17, 18, 19	<p>Feed the Elderly (FTE) is a local service for our isolated residents.</p> <p>Along with other church volunteers, St. S parishioners have served these residents on specific days.</p> <p>If you are willing to help, in this meaningful service, contact our FTE Coordinator: Gayle Altemueller, (336) 468-0676</p>
Mar	6, 7, 8	
Apr	24, 25, 26	
Jun	24, 25, 26	
Jul	31	
Aug	1, 2	
Sept	18, 19, 20	
Nov	6, 7, 8	
Dec	25, 26, 27	

**Opportunities
to Calendar and Gather**



<i>Ladies Guild</i>			
2nd Monday of the Month 5:00p, Family Life Center			
Jan 8	Apr 8	Jul 8	Oct 14
Feb 12	May 13	Aug 12	Nov 11
Mar 11	Jun 10	Sept 9	Dec 9



<i>Men's Breakfast Group</i>			
3rd Saturday of the Month 8:30a, Cracker Barrel *			
*Any change of venue will be in the bulletin			
Jan 20	Apr 20	Jul 20	Oct 19
Feb 17	May 18	Aug 17	Nov 16
Mar 16	Jun 15	Sept 21	Dec 21



<i>Wise Ones Luncheon</i>			
3rd Thursday of the Month Host and venue vary and will be in the bulletin			
Jan 18	Apr 18	Jul 18	Oct 17
Feb 15	May 16	Aug 15*	Nov 21
Mar 21	Jun 20	Sept 19	Dec 19

Ash Wednesday
FOR FAMILIES



TRADITIONS &
RESOURCES

+ LENTEN BULLETIN +

Hang this paper on your refrigerator or in your room.
Write your prayer intention for your prayer
& fasting for each day of the weekday of Lent.
Record date you donated to Tri-C or The Ark.

Ash Wednesday

This year, Ash Wednesday is on **February 14**
~ which is the same day as **Valentine's Day!**

So, this year Ash Wednesday is the perfect day to take
a good look at the choices we make with our hearts.

It is our Catholic tradition to focus on three choices in Lent:
+ PRAYER + FASTING + ALMSGIVING

+ PRAYER

Loving Jesus, you were led by the Holy Spirit into the desert
where you fasted for 40 days and 40 nights. There you learned to rely on God and the Word of God.

Response: *May the same Holy Spirit guide me as I enter into this prayer.*

May my prayers remind me of my complete dependence on you and your grace. **Response**

May my prayer unite me in one heart with those who suffer each and every day
and lead me to pray for those who are too scared, hurt, or ashamed to pray. **Response**

May my prayer for my intentions remind me that I am called to pray for my sisters and brothers
around the world, those waiting at our borders to find a safe home here,
those whose countries are at war, and those who are
hungry, homeless, abandoned, or abused. **Response**

May my daily prayer help me to grow in patience,
humility, generosity, forgiveness and compassion. **Response**

On **Sunday** my prayer intention is _____.

On **Monday** my prayer intention is _____.

On **Tuesday** my prayer intention is _____.

On **Wednesday** my prayer intention is _____.

On **Thursday** my prayer intention is _____.

On **Friday** my prayer intention is _____.

On **Saturday** my prayer intention is _____.

Be with me now, as I pray to be mindful
of my own need to change my heart, my habits, and my intentions.
Help me to grow in gratitude for your abundant blessings.
In Jesus' Name. Amen.

+ FASTING

Loving Jesus, you were led by the Holy Spirit into the desert where he fasted for 40 days and 40 nights.
There you learned to rely on God and not on bread alone.

Response: *May the same Holy Spirit guide me as I enter into this experience of fasting.*

May this fast remind me of my complete dependence on you and your grace. **Response**

May it unite me in one heart with those who suffer from hunger each and every day
and lead me to share what I have with others. **Response**

May each grumble of my stomach be a holy sign for me — a reminder of my hunger
for you and of how you satisfy that hunger. **Response**

May the discipline of fasting help me to grow in patience,
humility, generosity, and compassion. **Response**

These are my intentions for each day of Lent.

On **Sunday** for the intention of _____.

On **Monday** for the intention of _____.

On **Tuesday** for the intention of _____.

On **Wednesday** for the intention of _____.

On **Thursday** for the intention of _____.

On **Friday** for the intention of _____.

On **Saturday** for the intention of _____.

Be with me now, as I eat my meals and keep me mindful of my good health of mind, body, and spirit.
Help me to grow in gratitude for your abundant blessings. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

+ ALMSGIVING ~ Generous Giving without expecting repayment

Loving Jesus, you were led by the Holy Spirit into the desert where he fasted for 40 days and 40 nights.
There you learned to rely on God and not on bread alone.

Response: *May the same Holy Spirit guide me as I enter into this experience of generous giving.*

May my generosity help others' burdens to be lightened. **Response**

May I give without expecting repayment. **Response**

May I remember to give to **TRI-COUNTY CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES**

FEB Corn meal MAR Small laundry soap

+ + +

The Ark

Toiletries for the adults; sketch pads and colored pencils for the children.

Response

May I generously share my time to help others, my gifts to enrich others
and my offering to Tri-County Christian Ministries
and The Ark to bring help to those in need. **Response**

Be with me now, as I share my blessings with others.
Help me to grow in gratitude for your abundant blessings. In Jesus' Name. Amen.