



St. Stephen Catholic Church

101 Hawthorne Road Elkin NC 28621-3016

336.835.3007

Connect@StStephenNC.org

www.StStephenNC.org

Fr. Englebert Ofon

Administrator

336.838.5562

efon@rcdoc.org

S. Janis McQuade, S.S.J.

Pastoral Associate

336.835.3007

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Mrs. Theresa Martin

Music Ministry

336.816.0214

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Worship Schedule

St. Stephen Church, Elkin

Sundays 9:00am

Tuesday 12:15pm

Communion Service

Holy Days 7:00pm

St. John Church, North Wilkesboro

Saturday 4:00pm

Sunday 11:15am

1:00pm en español

Holy Days: Consult St. John Bulletin

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 3:00-3:45pm

or by appointment

Welcome to St. Stephen! ¡Bienvenidos a St. Stephen! Chào mừng đến với St. Stephen!

We are a Stewardship Community who share our time, talent,
and treasure in life-giving ways.

We invite ***new parishioners*** to register with us
by using our website registration form:

www.StStephenNC.org

Sacrament Preparation and Order of Christian Initiation of Adults O.C.I.A.

If you wish to prepare for any Sacrament, or you are interested in exploring
the Catholic Faith, or renewing your understanding
of the Catholic Faith, contact S. Janis

Sacrament of Anointing

If you, or someone you know is desirous of being anointed, call the office or Fr. Engelbert.



Welcome
to St. Stephen,
Fr. Engelbert Ofon!!

Blessings
on your ministry
among us!!

**Gabby LaCashio received the
Army Achievement Medal
rewarded for being
a student First Sergeant and guiding 250 students
during their first part of nursing school
while in San Antonio, TX.**

This is Gabby's current address:

**PFC LaCashio Gabrielle
3391 Winfield Scott Road
C Cp 264th JBSA
Ft. Sam Houston TX 78234**



Tri-C Almsgiving

Thank you so much !!

JUN

Tooth paste

JUL Peas	SEPT Shampoo	NOV Bar Soap
AUG Flour	OCT Dish Liquid	DEC Dry Beans



PRAY FOR AN END
TO VIOLENCE,
ESPECIALLY GUN VIOLENCE

You are invited to our Open Table

4:30-6:30pm ~ Jul 16

Third Thursdays ~ NO COST

FBC Elkin 110 Gwyn Avenue

(336) 835-1998 / www.elkinfbc.com

June Stewardship

Weekly Budget	Weekly Income
June 7	\$3194.00
June 14	\$2730.00
June 21	\$1412.00
June 28	\$1186.00
Fundraiser (Taco Sale)	\$600.00
Weekly Budget \$3000 x 4	\$12,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$9122.00
Under budget	\$2878.00



St. Stephen DSA

Assessment	\$10,959.00
Donors	19
Balance	\$3,449.00

WAYS to GIVE

Pledge: Give over time until December 31, 2026

One-time Gift: use DSA envelopes & make a one-time gift.

Online Gift: charlottediocese.org/dsa

Stock Donation: charlottediocese.org/ways-to-give

IRA Contribution: charlottediocese.org/ways-to-give

PRAY the ROSARY DAILY

...for peace and leaders of nations;

... for the end to all bombings,

a peaceful and just end

to these wars, and all wars...

& the violence that plagues

our planet...



**THANK YOU FOR RECYCLING
YOUR INK HERE.**

**IT'S GOOD for the EARTH
and IT'S HELPS THE CHURCH.**



25th and 50th

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

If you were married in 1976 or 2001,
you are invited to the annual Diocesan Wedding
Anniversary Mass

Sunday, October 11, 2026 at
The Cathedral of St. Patrick, Charlotte.

Mass begins at 2:00 p.m. and
will be followed by a reception.

Limit of 2 guests per couple.

Please scan the QR code to register.

CELEBRACIÓN DEL

25.º Y 50.º ANIVERSARIO DE BODAS

Si contrajeron matrimonio en 1976 o 2001,
están invitados a la Misa Diocesana Anual
de Aniversario de Bodas el
domingo 11 de octubre de 2026,
en la Catedral de San Patricio, Charlotte.

La Misa comenzará a las 2:00 p. m. y
será seguida por una recepción.
Límite de 2 invitados por pareja.

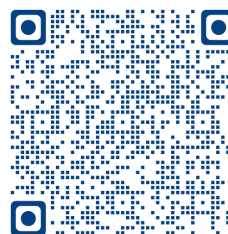




Photo by Carlos Diodonet

¡Buenos días, Iglesia!

El libro **The "Let Them" Theory** (La teoría de «déjalos»), de Mel Robbins, permaneció un total de 76 semanas en la lista de libros más vendidos del **New York Times**, ocupando el primer puesto durante 65 de ellas.

La teoría de Robbins surgió de una experiencia personal: una serie de conversaciones que se convirtieron en una lección para ella justo cuando su hijo, la chica que lo acompañaba y el grupo de amigos estaban a punto de salir para el baile de graduación.

Mientras se dirigían a la puerta, ella les pidió que esperaran un momento para ir a buscar el ramillete de flores que había encargado en la floristería. Su hijo le dijo: «Mamá, ella no quiere llevar eso». «¡Pero si es precioso!». «¡Mamá, no!» (La chica ya llevaba uno puesto en la muñeca).

«¿Dónde van a cenar?». «Vamos a parar en una taquería de la zona». «¿Para la cena previa al baile?». Entonces, ella sacó el teléfono para buscar buenos restaurantes. Su hija, Kendall, la miraba fijamente, con gesto de reproche. «Mamá —dijo Kendall—, si quieren comer tacos, DÉJALOS». «PERO ese sitio es demasiado pequeño para que quepan todos. Se van a empapar». «Mamá, DÉJALOS empaparse. Mamá, te estás poniendo pesada. DÉJALOS llegar al baile con el esmoquin y los vestidos mojados, DÉJALOS ir a comer donde quieran. Es su baile de graduación, no el tuyo. Déjalo ya. DÉJALOS».

Escuchó a Kendell y dejó de intentar controlar hasta el último detalle de la experiencia del baile de graduación de su hijo. Le dio 40 dólares para la cena y observó cómo las parejas bajaban del porche hacia la lluvia torrencial. Ese momento cambió su vida.

El Evangelio de hoy es una continuación del texto de la semana pasada. La buena semilla y la mala hierba crecen juntas en el campo de la vida. Jesús dice: «DEJEN» que crezcan juntas. Cuando llegue el momento, yo separaré el trigo de la mala hierba, no ustedes. No intenten controlar minuciosamente a quiénes o qué cosas han identificado como «mala hierba» que debe separarse de la cosecha.

No. Es. Su. Trabajo.

Dediquen su tiempo en el campo a cultivar su propio crecimiento en la fe. Labren, rieguen y poden su propio camino de fe. Jesús les PERMITE tener la libertad de elegir. PERMITAN que los demás también tengan esa libertad.

En el Uno, somos uno, en ComUNIDAD,

spanis



Photo by Carlos Diodonet

Morning, Church!

The book, Let Them Theory by Mel Robbins, spent 76 weeks overall on the NYT's best sellers list, with 65 of those weeks at #1. Robbins theory is one born from her personal experience. As her son, his date, and their friend group were about to leave for the prom. A series of conversations became a teachable moment for Mel.

As her son made his way to the door, she asked all of them to wait as she retrieved the corsage she had made for his date. Her son said, "Mom, she doesn't want to wear that." "But, it's so pretty!" "Mom, no!" (His date already had one on her wrist).

"Where are you going to dinner?" "We're stopping at a local taco place." "For your pre-prom dinner?!" Then she opened her phone searching for good restaurants. Her daughter, Kendall, is staring / glaring at her now. "Mom," said Kendall, "If they want to get tacos, LET THEM." "But that place is *too small* for all of them to fit. They're going to get soaked." "Mom, LET THEM get soaked. Mom, you're being annoying. LET THEM show up to prom in wet tuxedo and dresses, LET THEM go eat where they want. It's their prom. Not yours. Just drop it. LET. THEM."

She listened to Kendell and stopped trying to micro manage her son's prom experience. She handed him \$40 for the meal and watched the couples step off the porch into the pouring rain. That moment changed her life.

Today's text is a continuation of Matthew's gospel. Good seeds and weeds grow side-by-side in the field of life. Jesus says, "LET THEM" grow together. When the time comes, I will separate the wheat from the weeds, not you. Avoid premature judgment. Don't micro manage others, what they say and do. It is not up to you to decide who's the wheat or who's the weed. The Great Separation will happen at the time of Final Harvest.

Not. Your. Job.

Spend time attending *your own field, nurturing your own growth in faith*. Till, water, and prune your own faithjourney. Jesus LETS YOU have your freedom to choose where and how you grow. LET OTHERS have that freedom, too.

In the One, we are one...in CommUNITY,

spanis

JULY	
01	Choir, 7p
02	Formation & Information Acolytes 10:30a church
04	<i>Pray for a United States of America</i>
05	<i>14th Sunday OT</i> Eucharistic Ministers' Formation & Information, 10:15
07	Communion Service, 12:15p
 08	Choir, 7p
11	<u>New</u> Proclaimer's Formation & Information, 10:30a
12	<i>15th Sunday OT</i>
 13	Ladies Guild, 5p
14	Communion Service, 12:15p
 15	Choir, 7p Greeter/Ushers Session, 11a or Greeter/Ushers Session, 6:30p
 16	Wise Ones, Theo's J'ville, 1p Host: Jerry
 18	Men's Breakfast, Cracker Barrel, 8:30a
19	<i>16th Sunday OT</i>
 20	Give Blood, EV Baptist Ch 1:30-6:00p
 21	Communion Service, 12:15p OCIA TUES, 6:30p
 22	OCIA OAKLAND, 7p  Choir, 7p
24 /25	PARISH YARD SALE <i>See flyer p. 7 for Items list</i> 
26	<i>17th Sunday OT</i>
28	Communion Service, 12:15p
 29	Choir, 7p

☪ Mass Intentions	
05	Fr. Engelbert +Roxanne Arrowood
12	+Judy Tymko
19	+Elizabeth & Joseph Dittrich r/b Donna Stvartak
26	+Michael J. Hicks r/b Anthony Caracciolo

Pope Leo: Walking the Word



In our eagerness to "fix" or judge others, we often risk destroying the good.

I want to stress that humanity cannot easily separate the "wheat" from the "weeds" until the final harvest.

God does not hastily uproot the bad, giving all people time and grace for repentance and renewal.

It is ultimately God's job to move history and sort the good from the bad.

The faithful need to focus on cultivating their own spiritual soil rather than being consumed by the evil around them.

Birthdays & Anniversaries



04 Michael Kelly	21 Roseamelia Kelly
S. Janis McQuade, SSJ	22 Barbara DeJohn
David Serafin	24 Kevin Robinson
06 Bryan Wagoner	26 Frank Simon
08 Isidro Rodriguez	27 Abigail Mariano
11 Julia Mantero	29 Julian Espino
12 Ofelia Nava	31 Lauren Peruzzo

14 Dianne & Andy Crawford	27 Jacquie & John Darcey
22 Ashley & Aymes Davis	29 Christine & Bryan Whitler

Mass Intentions



Praying for others is a profound act of faith to pray for the living, the dead, and special intentions.

In Catholic practice, we have a Mass celebrated for our deceased loved ones, those celebrating a special occasion, or our own special intentions.

If you wish to schedule a Mass for any of these reasons, use the Mass Intention envelopes in the lobby.

Print the name and reason for the Mass and your name on the front. Include the ten dollars stipend for the Mass in the envelope and give the envelope to S. Janis who'll schedule the Mass.



PARISH YARD SALE ~ JULY 24 - 25 @ 8:00a
VENTA DE GARAJE PARROQUIA - 24-25 JULIO @ 8:00a

Donations accepted:

Monday, Wednesday, & Friday

9:30-10:30a

or

Immediately after Mass

July 6, 13, 20

Se aceptan donaciones:

Lunes, miércoles y viernes

9:30-10:30 a. m.

o

Inmediatamente después de la misa

6, 13 y 20 de julio

Donations do not included:

Clothing

Books without covers

Cribs or baby equipment

Large / CRT TVs

Large appliances

Building supplies

Opened paint cans

Broken or dirty items

Unframed glass

Las donaciones no incluyen:

Ropa

Libros sin tapas

Cunas o artículos para bebés

Televisores grandes/CRT

Electrodomésticos grandes

Materiales de construcción

Latas de pintura abiertas

Artículos rotos o sucios

Vidrios sin marco

Weeds Among the Wheat



Weeds are plants thought to be harmful to fields and to gardens. Have you ever helped pick weeds out of a plot? In today's parable, Jesus tells about a man who lets the wheat and the weeds grow together until harvest time. That way the wheat doesn't get pulled up with the weeds.

God allows good and evil to exist at the same time. God allows time for those who are making unloving choices to change their hearts and live loving lives. We all ways have a choice: choose to be like Jesus or choose to be selfish.



God's mercy is heard in all our readings today. God gives us chance after chance to become who God created us to be...and to be merciful to others.

Be merciful as Jesus us merciful. Help others to grow in faith and love by your words and example. Then you will become more like Jesus every day.

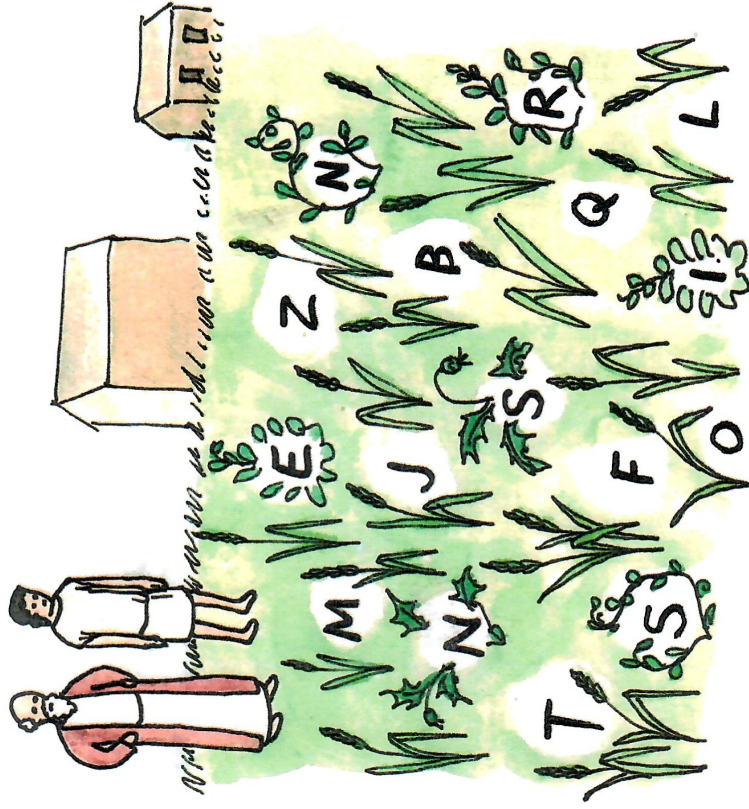


Answers for sort-out-the-pictures: top:3,6 middle:5,2 bottom:1,4 OR top:5,6 middle:4,2 bottom:1,3.

Answer to front page: sinners

The Kids' Bulletin

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 19th, 2026



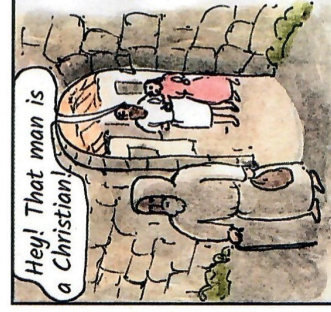
What did the weeds in today's parable represent? Find all the letters that are in the weeds and unscramble them to find out.



The weeds are any plant that doesn't look like this.

St. Appollinaris of Ravenna

July 20



SAINT APPOLLINARIS WAS A TRUE HERO FOR THE FAITH. HE KEPT GOING BACK TO HIS PEOPLE EVEN THOUGH HE KEPT GETTING BEATEN AND TORTURED. HE IS AN EXAMPLE TO US TO NEVER QUIT HELPING PEOPLE COME TO GOD EVEN WHEN OTHERS KEEP FIGHTING AGAINST US.

Sort Out the Pictures: The Weeds and the Wheat

What happened in today's parable?
Put the numbers 1 to 6 in the boxes
to show the order in which the story went.

