



**St. John Baptiste de LaSalle Catholic Church**

275 C.C. Wright School Road  
North Wilkesboro NC 28659-9103

336-838-5562

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**St. Stephen Catholic Church**

101 Hawthorne Road  
Elkin NC 28621-3016

336-835-3007

Email: [connect@ststephennc.org](mailto:connect@ststephennc.org)

Website: [www.ststephennc.org](http://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*

**Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**July 2, 2023**

**THANK YOU SO MUCH!**



During the month of June,  
St. Stephen Churches & St. John the Baptist de LaSalle  
are taking up a special collection of **diapers** to support  
**Catholic Charities Wee Care Ministry.**

This ministry provides assistance to help families with small children.

The ministry needs boxed diapers in all sizes, especially **sizes 3 to 7.**

Catholic Charities is very grateful to the parishioners for their generosity!

Please bring donated items to the church **Sundays, June 4, 11, 18 & 25**



### What Some Endure to Gain Freedom

For to be free is not merely  
to cast off one's chains,  
but to live in a way that respects  
and enhances the freedom of others.

~ Nelson Mandela

Mandela spent 27 years in prison and doing hard labor because he protested apartheid (apartness) in the British Commonwealth of S. Africa ~ a country with an Afrikaan 93% majority and white 3% minority.

Once released, he continued to work with W.F. deKlerk, president of S. Africa.

Mandela began a national movement to end apartheid and to form a new democratic government in South Africa.

After 46 year of apartheid, "apartness", the Afrikaans gained their freedom April 27, 1994

On May 10, 1994, Nelson Mandela, at the age of 77, was inaugurated South Africa's first black president.

Although the ANC, Mandela's party, gained a majority vote, they formed the Government of National Unity (GNU), headed with Mandela as president and W.F. deKlerk as First Deputy.



*Pope Francis ~ Walking the Word*

**Kindness**

**is a firm and  
persevering intention  
to always will  
the good of others,  
even the stranger,  
the unfriendly.**



Tri-C Christian Ministries  
**July AImsgiving**  
Jello or Jello pudding



IT'S A GREAT TIME!! "SPRING CLEAN"!!  
SET ASIDE ITEMS YOU WISH TO DONATE  
ST. S YARD SALE ~ JULY 29, 2023

Donations do not include:

<b>Clothing</b>	<b>Books without covers</b>
<b>Unframed glass</b>	<b>Large or CRT televisions</b>
<b>Opened paint cans</b>	<b>Building supplies</b>
<b>Large appliances</b>	<b>Broken items</b>
<b>Cribs or baby equipment</b>	<b>Dirty items</b>

**Please do your part:  
donate items, come to the Yard Sale  
and buy something!**

*Yard sales proceeds will be directed towards  
a parish need or charity.  
Last year the proceeds went towards our new church roof.*

**Over ??? Mass shootings**

since Jan, 2023

**# ? dead**

(Subject to change until we do)

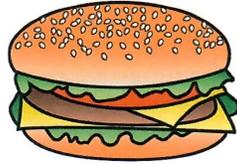


<b>Tri-C Almsgiving</b> Thank you so much !!	
JUN	Jelly



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

# You are invited to a CommUNITY Cookout



**Saturday, July 22, 2023  
12:00 – 2:00PM**

**Elkin Presbyterian Church  
151 Hillcrest Drive, Elkin NC**

**If you have a home church  
please contact them to RSVP. If not,  
please call Elkin Presbyterian Church  
(336) 835-4545**

**Sponsored by Connections,  
a group of local clergy who seek to  
*Dismantle Racism*  
*One Relationship at a Time***

**Please join us for a free  
Fellowship Meal and Table Talk**





### Morning Church!

Fifty years ago, my dear friend, Jean Conte, gave me a statue for Final Vow. The statue is called, "Adsum." meaning *Present or Here I Am*.

Being present and receptive is a desired grace for my sacred faithjourney. Our pilgrimage home to God is definitely no sprint. It is a marathon! It is very crucial to be spiritually conscious and open to God and you Dear Neighbor. Is this a *desired, mentoring grace* for your trek Home?

For the past three Sundays, *Adsum* showed through a willingness to Set the Table of your heart for others; laboring with Christ to yield a rich harvest; and fearlessly serving as God's prophet as you live the gospel in word and deed.

Today, the image of *Adsum* is made visible in The Shunammite Woman (2Kings). This faithful, Unnamed Woman remained steadfast, present, and receptive to God's grace. She recognized God's visitation in the prophet, Elisha. She created space in her heart and home for him and he, in turn, blessed her in God's Name, by the birth of a son.

The Shunammite Woman's receptivity created space for God's Word proclaimed by Elisha. This grace mentored her heart. Her faith and willingness led her to take a risk and receive Elisha into her home. Her example invites you to do the same for your Dear Neighbor. Who stands at the door of your heart and asks you to be receptive to God's Word in them?

What mentoring grace do you desire at this time of your journey?

Like Elisha, The Unnamed Shunammite Woman had a sense of being sent by God, too. Surely Elisha is not the only traveler whom she blessed with room, board and protection.

Her receptivity to God and others is her life pattern and attitude. Today, she is your visible *Adsum*, and asks you:

How service-focused are you?

How well do you listen to or resist God's prophetic voice in others?

Do you reckon your voice *more or less sacred* than other voices?

Being present and receptive, welcoming others, mainly in those you call *The Stranger* or *The Others*, is a graced, costly, risk-taking choice. It costs your ego to receive and accept God's Word in others.

Their presence dares you to stop judging every person or group that may make you feel uncomfortable or that you deem as radically different from you.

In today's gospel, Jesus says emphatically, "Whoever welcomes you, welcomes me and The One who sent me."

At the Communion procession, you walk to the altar with empty hands. You return to your place with the Body and Blood of Christ in you!

When your Dear Neighbors come to you, do they leave with a sense of God's presence because they encountered God in your receptivity to them?

*Be present. Be receptive.  
Be the visible presence of the invisible God.  
Adsum.*

Thank you, Jean Conte, for your graced presence and receptivity. Thank you for being the visible presence of the invisible God.

God's blessings,

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### 🌱 Reflecting and Acting on The Word ~ HEARTwork

*How receptive and present am I when approached by my Neighbors, especially those I deem as The Different, The Outsiders, The Untouchables?  
How aware am I that I am the visible presence of the invisible God?*

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

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J U L Y	
02	13th Sun OT
04	<b>NO</b> Communion Service <b>May God bless America with UNITY &amp; EMPATHY.</b>
09	14th Sun OT
11	Communion Service, 12:15p
15	Men's Group <i>Breakfast Time</i> , 8:30a 
16	15th Sun OT
17	Give Blood Elkin Rescue Squad, 1:30-6p 
18	Communion Service, 12:15p
 19	RCIA, 6:45p
20	Wise Ones Luncheon, 1p <i>Cedarbrook C.C.</i> Host: Karen Gochnauer 
22	<b>CommUNITY Picnic</b> Elkin Presbyterian Church, 10a <b>ALL ARE WELCOME!!</b> Sponsored by Ministerial Association
23	16th Sun OT
25	Communion Service, 12:15p
30	17th Sun OT
31	Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola

☪ Mass Intentions	
02	+Charles & Carol McQuade
09	+Judy Tymko
16	St. Stephen Parishioners

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

02 Jorge Lopez	18 Eileen Ouellette
04 David Serafin	29 Joyce Kelly
Janis McQuade	22 Barb DeJohn
06 Alejandro Garcia	Joeeph Martinez
Bryan Wagoner	24 Kevin Robinson
08 Isidro Rodriguez	26 Lorriaine Benfanti
11 Julia Mantero	Frank Simon
12 Ofelia Nava	29 Julian Espino
13 Lesly Crispin	31 Orlando Trinidad

14 Dianne & Andy Crawford 16 Pauline & Fred Sener  
 22 Ashley & Aymes Davis, Jacquie & John Darcey  
 31 Cindy Whitley & Ozzie Martinez



**S. Ellen Casey, S.S.J.**

Born January 6, 1941

Born to eternal life June 29, 2023  
 in the 64th year of her religious life

### PARISH DIRECTORY

HOUSEHOLD PHOTO SESSIONS

FINAL DATES

**July 2, 9, 16, 23**



## Thank you...

...to all who volunteered after Mass to fix the kneelers on Sunday...to Leo Ouellette, who fixed them & rehung the hymn board... We appreciate all y'all's offers and help!  
 ...to our Music Director, Theresa Martin, our choir, & cantors, Mary Harper, Theresa Martin, Beth. John & Marcus and Maggie Orta, and Peggy Reikowsky...and to all our Liturgical Ministers who graciously share their loving presence among us...

You bless us, God bless you!

## Keep the Gospel First



**PRAY**

When you wake up, be joyful for your life! Tell God how grateful you are. Pray, "Good Morning, God, thanks for another day!" Be grateful for all your blessings! This is best way to begin each day and to live the gospel Jesus taught you. Pray gratefully.

Another way to keep the gospel first is to help others these ways:

### Corporal Works of Mercy.

1. Feed the hungry.  
*Bring a non-perishable item to donate to Tri-County Christian Ministries*
2. Give a drink to someone who's thirsty.
3. Shelter the homeless.
4. Visit the sick.
5. Visit the imprisoned.
6. Bury the dead.



**SERVE**



**SACRIFICE**

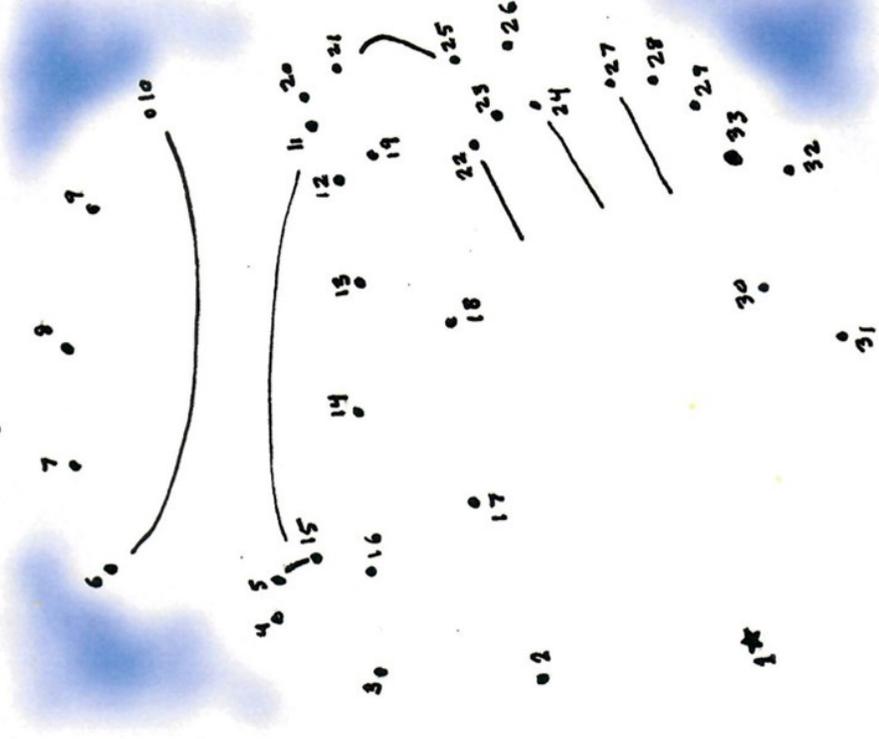
Every day Jesus asks you to be loving. The gospel teaches you many ways to love God and your Dear Neighbor. Living the gospel means God asks you to do or say something you don't want to do ~ and you do it anyway because you love God. *When you sacrifice* you are living the gospel. *When you serve* your Neighbor, you are living the gospel. *When you pray*, you are living the gospel.

**PRAY SERVE SACRIFICE**

Answers to Crossword: ACROSS: 4 little, 5 prophet, 6 to, 8 reward, 10 say, 11 cup, 12 cross, 14 me, 16 loves, 17 mother. DOWN: 1 righteous, 2 sent, 3 worthy, 7 lose, 9 receive, 13 sake 15 him

# The Kids' Bulletin

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
July 2nd, 2023



**In today's Gospel reading Jesus says that if you give one of these to a little one because they are His disciple you will be rewarded. What is it? Connect the dots to find out!**

# SAINT GREGORIO GRASSI

JULY 8

GREGORIO GRASSI WAS BORN IN ITALY IN 1833. WHEN HE WAS FIFTEEN HE JOINED THE FRANCISCANS. HE STUDIED IN THE SEMINARY AND BECAME A PRIEST.



Is this what God is calling you to?

AFTER HE WAS ORDAINED HE WAS SENT TO ROME FOR TRAINING.



FATHER GREGORIO WAS THEN SENT TO CHINA AS A MISSIONARY.



IN TAIYUAN HE WAS PUT IN CHARGE OF THE ORPHANAGE AND THE CHOIR.



Sanctus! Sanctus!

LATER HE WAS MADE BISHOP OF NORTH SHANXI.



Welcome, your Excellency!

HERE HE CARED FOR THOSE SICK FROM PLAGUE AND FAMINE, AND HE STARTED A FRANCISCAN HOUSE.

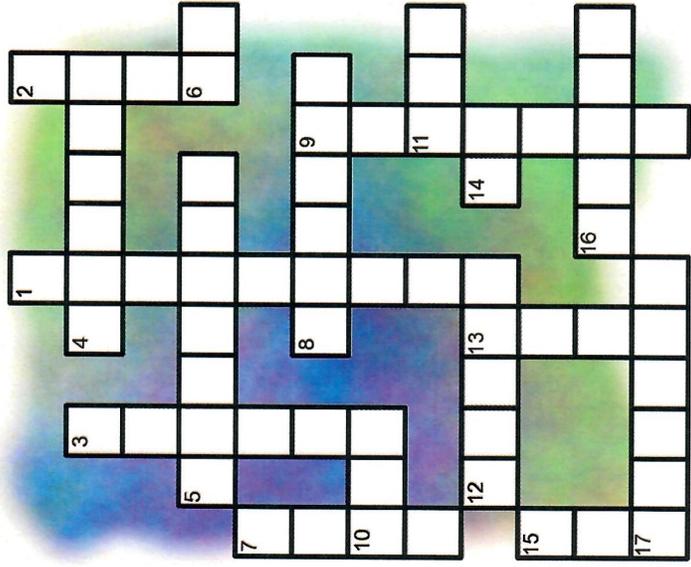


IN 1900 THERE WAS A REBELLION IN CHINA AGAINST THE EUROPEANS WHO LIVED THERE, AND BISHOP GREGORIO AND MANY OTHER CATHOLICS WERE KILLED.



WHEN THE REBELLION STARTED BISHOP GREGORIO WAS WARNED TO LEAVE CHINA, BUT HE HAD LONG DESIRED TO DIE AS A MARTYR FOR CHRIST. HE CHOSE TO KEEP HELPING THE POOR AND SICK AND TO GIVE HIS LIFE FOR JESUS AND HIS CHURCH. WOULD YOU BE BRAVE ENOUGH TO DO THAT?

# A Gospel Crossword



Fill in the missing words in today's Gospel reading to find the answers to this crossword!

A=Across  
D=Down

He who loves father or \_\_\_\_\_ (17A)  
more than me is not worthy of me; and he who \_\_\_\_\_ (16A) son or daughter

more than me is not worthy of me; and he who does not take his \_\_\_\_\_ (12A) and follow me is not \_\_\_\_\_ (3D) of me. He who finds his life will \_\_\_\_\_ (7D) it, and he who loses his life for my \_\_\_\_\_ (13D) will find it. "He who receives you receives \_\_\_\_\_ (14A), and he who receives me receives \_\_\_\_\_ (15D) who \_\_\_\_\_ (2D) me. He who receives a prophet because he is a \_\_\_\_\_ (5A) shall \_\_\_\_\_ (9D) a prophet's reward, and he who receives a \_\_\_\_\_ (1D) man because he is a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's \_\_\_\_\_ (8A). And whoever gives \_\_\_\_\_ (6A) one of these \_\_\_\_\_ (4A) ones even a \_\_\_\_\_ (11A) of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I \_\_\_\_\_ (10A) to you, he shall not lose his reward."