



St. Stephen Catholic Church

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www.StStephenNC.org

Fr. Englebert Ofon

Administrator

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Pastoral Associate

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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.



Celebrating
70 Acts of Kindness in gratitude for
St. Stephen Faith Community 70 Years

This is a blessed time in the history of our faith community.

Our parish is known for its generous service, hospitality,
and life-giving ministry among our dear neighbors.

You are invited to continue that same loving spirit
by doing 70 Acts of Kindness between now and the

Feast of St. Stephen
on December 26.

Keep a record of your loving acts

They will offer at Mass on the

Feast of the Holy Family,
Sunday, December 27.

Bind and loose in Christ's Name

Morning, Church!

=

All my life I've lived in community: family, Catholic schools, CYO sports, and Girl Scouts, followed by living in religious community as a SSJ for 61 years.

Community is the shaper of my relationship and stories; it has given significant meaning to my life and expanded my understanding of *neighbor* and *neighborhood*.

Whatever community built you, it is the primary way you learn who you are and who you aren't; what love and forgiveness are and what they aren't; how fragile life is; and how swiftly your journey moves from the intimate circle of family to the heavenly Communion of Saints.

Community life is the relationship that shapes, stretches, and sustains you. It's the place where you experience the constant invitation to *conversion*, of becoming *who God calls you to be in faith and grace*.

An undeniable and necessary grace that faiths conversion and community is the spiritual figure eight of seeking forgiveness and absolving others.

Since we are broken creatures, we hurt and offend one another. We sin against one another. None of us are above the need for self-examination or the need for forgiveness. None of us.

Today's gospel reminds us of the importance of seeking and giving forgiveness, to be intentional and accountable for the wrongdoings of our life.

Forgiveness or withholding forgiveness
affect family life, community life,
and the world community, too.

Christ has entrusted to us the grace to bind or loose one another in his name. Go forth from this Eucharist to bind and loose in Christ's name, aware both choices have eternal implications.

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



Atar y desatar en el nombre de Cristo

¡Buenos días, Iglesia!

He vivido en comunidad toda mi vida: en la familia, en escuelas católicas, en deportes de la CYO y en las Girl Scouts, seguido de mi vida en comunidad religiosa como hermana de San José (SSJ) durante 61 años.

La comunidad ha moldeado mis relaciones y mi historia; ha dado un sentido profundo a mi vida y ha ampliado mi comprensión de lo que significa el *prójimo* y la *vecindad*.

Cualquiera que sea la comunidad que te haya formado, esta constituye el medio principal para descubrir quién eres y quién no eres; para aprender qué son —y qué no son— el amor y el perdón; para comprender la fragilidad de la vida y la rapidez con la que el propio camino transcurre desde el círculo íntimo de la familia hasta la comunión celestial de los santos.

La vida comunitaria es esa relación que te moldea, te hace crecer y te sostiene; es el lugar donde experimentas la constante invitación a la conversión, a llegar a ser quien Dios te llama a ser en la fe y en la gracia.

Una gracia innegable y necesaria para la conversión y la vida comunitaria es ese movimiento espiritual —semejante a un ocho— que consiste en buscar el perdón para uno mismo y en absolver a los demás.

Como somos criaturas imperfectas, nos hacemos daño y nos ofendemos mutuamente. Pecamos los unos contra los otros. Ninguno de nosotros está exento de la necesidad de examinar su propia conciencia o de la necesidad de recibir el perdón. Ninguno.

El Evangelio de hoy nos recuerda la importancia de buscar y otorgar el perdón, de actuar con intención y de asumir la responsabilidad por las faltas cometidas en nuestra vida.

El perdón —o la negativa a perdonar— repercute en la vida familiar, en la vida comunitaria y también en la comunidad mundial.

Cristo nos ha confiado la gracia de atar o desatar a los demás en su nombre. Al salir de esta Eucaristía, vayamos a atar y desatar en nombre de Cristo, conscientes de que ambas decisiones tienen implicaciones eternas.

En el Uno, somos uno, en ComUNIDAD,



S E P T E M B E R	
01	Communion Service, 12:15p
 02	Choir, 7p
06	23rd Sunday OT
 07	OCIA, 6:30p
08	Communion Service, 12:15p
 09	Choir, 7p
13	24th Sunday OT
 14	Ladies Guild, 5p OCIA, 6:30p 
15	Communion Service, 12:15p
 16	Choir, 7p
17	Wise Ones, 1p TBA 
19	Men's Breakfast, Cracker Barrel, 8:30a 
20	25th Sunday OT
 21	Give Blood EV Baptist Ch 1:30-6:00p OCIA, 6:30p 
22	Communion Service, 12:15p
 23	Choir, 7p; OCIA Mystagogia, 7p
27	26th Sunday OT
 28	OCIA, 6:30p
29	Communion Service, 12:15p
 30	Choir, 7p

☪ Mass Intentions	
06	+Elizabeth & Michael Karaffa; +Dr. Bob Gochnauer +Ellyn M. Garwood +Kathleen Hyer
13	+Vietnamese mother, Anna Marie r/b her son
20	+Thomas Dursee r/b Becky Dursee
27	+JoAnn Skinner r/b Patti Taddio +Bob Horneck r/b Lana Horneck Celeste & Larry Liss (Anniv) r/b S Janis

Birthdays & Anniversaries



01 Oscar Hernandez	16 Yareli Nava
03 Hanna Brown	17 Sergio Hernandez
Salomon Mata	Ann Nickerson
05 Rianna Hernandez	13 Eric Garcia
06 Carlos Trejo	19 Andrea Faw
07 Liam Lopez	22 Aracely Hernandez
10 Sonia DeJesus	25 Theresa Martin
13 Erika Ramirez	27 Lucas Brown
15 Peggy Reikowsky	29 Minnie Espino
Josh Talbott	

12 S. Janis McQuade
23 Maria & Jose Ledesma
25 Vanessa & Dakota Spicer
29 Julia & Diego Carreon



Inscripción p
ara la formación
en la fe Antes
del 13 de sept



Faith Formation
Registration
By
Sept 13

página de inicio del sitio web / website homepage

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd6i10lygjtsskDrEatasrBAqzQ47URdZUwwl24Vj8bjlllobQ/viewform>



Tri-C Almsgiving

Thank you so much !!

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



Jóvenes de Primera Comunión 2026

¿Estarías dispuesto
a servir en el altar como acólito?

Sesiones de preparación

5 y 12 de septiembre

10:30 a. m. – 12:00 p. m.

2026 First Communion Youth

Would you be willing
to serve at the Altar as an Acolyte?

Preparation sessions

Sept. 5 & 12

10:30-12Noon

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 & violence
that plagues our planet...



Continue to pray...

The Russo-Ukrainian War began
in **February 2014** with *Russia's annexation
of Crimea* and the start of fighting
in eastern Ukraine.

The conflict entered a major new phase
February 24, 2022, when Russia launched
a full-scale invasion of Ukraine.
...four years, seven months...and counting...



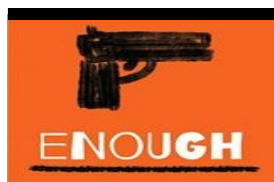
**THANK YOU FOR RECYCLING
YOUR INK HERE. IT'S GOOD for the
EARTH & HELPS THE CHURCH.**

You are invited to our First Baptist Church
Open Table

4:30-6:30pm ~ Sept. 17

Third Thursdays ~ NO COST

FBC Elkin 110 Gwyn Avenue



PRAY FOR AN END
TO WAR and VIOLENCE,
ESPECIALLY GUN VIOLENCE



St. Stephen DSA	
Assessment	\$10,959.00
Donors	21
Balance	\$3,449.00



What should I do when somebody else sins?

In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells us that if someone sins against us we should quietly go and talk to them about it. Have you ever seen someone else do something bad? Did you talk to them about it?



I DON'T WANT TO BOTHER YOU, BUT I THINK YOU'RE MAKING A MISTAKE!



WE REALLY WANT YOU TO BE OUR FRIEND, BUT YOU CAN'T KEEP LYING TO US!

When we talk to somebody about something bad they are doing we should do it with love. We aren't trying to make them feel bad; we're trying to help!

Has anyone ever told you when you were doing something wrong? Did you find it easy to listen to them? When we try to help people who do bad things, what God wants us to do is be kind to them and help them to turn away from their sins. It's hard to do, but it makes God so happy to see us helping people come back to God!



CAN YOU PLEASE BE MORE CAREFUL?

YES, MOM.

Answer to puzzle on front: yes!
Answer to word-find puzzle:
Pray with others

The Kids' Bulletin

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 6th, 2026

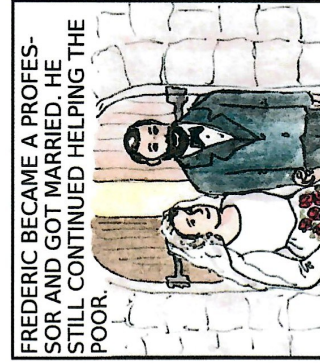
*Sometimes we see other people doing things that we know are wrong.
When we see other people doing sins, does Jesus want us to talk to them about it?*



To find the answer, only colour in the spaces with crosses like this: +

Blessed Frédéric Ozanam

September 7



WE CAN LEARN FROM THE LIFE OF BLESSED FREDERIC THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO DISCUSS THE FAITH WITH PEOPLE, BOTH THOSE WHO CAN HELP US AND THOSE WE CAN HELP. BUT WE ALSO LEARN THAT JUST TALKING ISN'T ENOUGH. WE HAVE TO ACT, TO BE CHARITABLE LIKE CHRIST WAS AS WELL.



...Where two or three
are gathered in my Name...

T W H I C H P R T A Here is the last part of
H H E A R T H S H T today's Gospel reading.
R E A G A I N H E O See if you can find all
E R V R M Y W A R G the words in CAPITALS
E E E N S G L E E in the puzzle. Use the
P I N E N A R L N T left-over letters to fill in
R T L H O Y A T A H the blanks.

What is Our Lord
asking us to do?

AGAIN, AMEN, I SAY to YOU, if two of you
AGREE on EARTH about ANYTHING for
WHICH they are to PRAY, it SHALL be
GRANTED to them by my HEAVENLY
FATHER. For WHERE TWO or THREE are
GATHERED TOGETHER in my NAME,
THERE am I in the MIDST of them.