



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

Connect@StStephenNC.org

Mrs. Theresa Martin

Music Ministry

336.816.0214

Connect@StStephenNC.org

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:

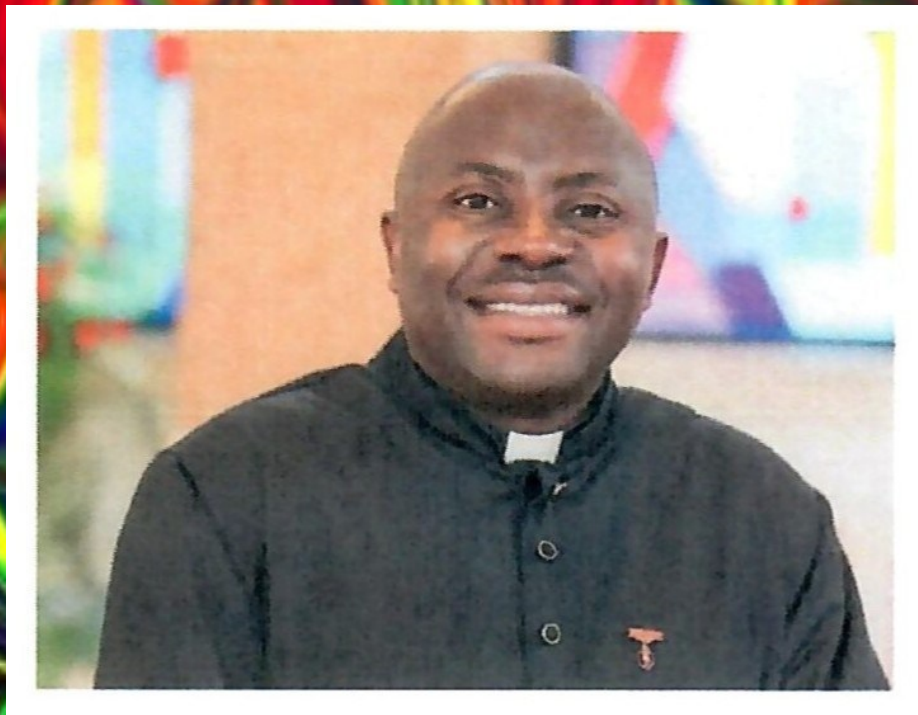
www.StStephenNC.org

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**





St. Stephen Bulletin Board



Tri-C Almsgiving

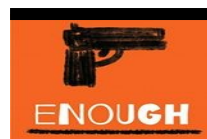
Thank you so much !!

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

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...



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



You are invited to our First Baptist Church Open Table

4:30-6:30pm ~ Aug 20

Third Thursdays ~ NO COST

FBC Elkin 110 Gwyn Avenue

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

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



**DIOCESAN
SUPPORT
APPEAL 2026**

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

DSA: 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

T H A N K Y O U !!!

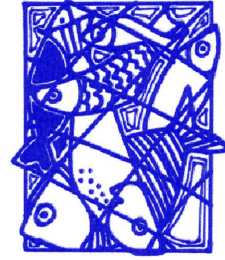
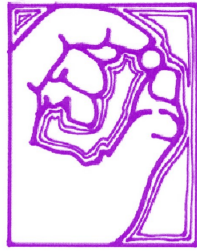
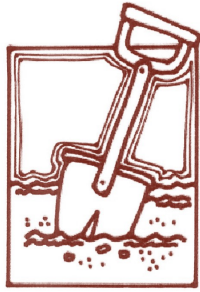
A standing "O"

Yard Sale & Food Fundraiser volunteers for a job well done!

*Gayle A; Aileen C; Barbara DeJ; Jim D; Karen G; Lupe & Ray H,
Luz, Liam, Reyna & Marie; Lana H; Pat K; Jason LaC;
Margarita & Memo L; Marta L & America; Elia M & Cecilia; Barbara P;
Peggy R; Lou S; Donna S; Patti T;
Veronica T, Orlando, Natalia, & Andy; and Doris W.*



El Reino de los Cielos es como...



¡Buenos días, Iglesia!

¿Has notado la presencia abrumadora de anuncios de sitios de apuestas deportivas en los medios de comunicación? Estas empresas te desafían a atreverte, a correr riesgos y a apostar con ellas.

Asumimos riesgos, grandes y pequeños, constantemente. Correr riesgos forma parte de la naturaleza humana. Los riesgos que tomamos nos enseñan y nos moldean respecto a lo que es valioso o invaluable; pueden profundizar nuestra fe o restarle valor.

El trío de parábolas de Mateo nos muestra que, en lo que respecta a la fe, asumir riesgos tiene un gran valor. Estas parábolas nos confrontan con nuestras prioridades: ¿qué es lo que más atesoras o valoras? ¿Qué se requerirá de ti para proteger y cultivar tus valores y tus relaciones más preciadas?

El Reino de Dios (que es como Dios mismo) debe ser deseado por encima de todas las personas y de todas las cosas. Se trata de «venderlo todo», de sacrificar todo lo innecesario que hemos acumulado en nuestra alma.

El sacrificio tiene un precio. Te cuesta tu voluntad, tus deseos, tu tiempo, tus comodidades, tus rutinas y tu ego.

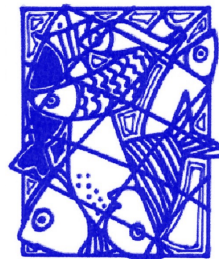
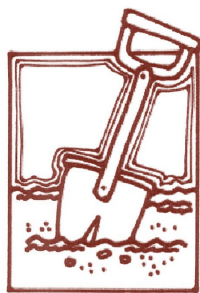
Hay un tesoro en el campo, una perla de gran valor y una red rebosante. Apostar por el Reino de Dios no es una simple apuesta de azar. El resultado es seguro, y la esperanza de la recompensa recibe una recompensa eterna.

La pregunta es: ¿estás dispuesto a arriesgarte y «apostar» por Jesús y por el Reino de Dios?

En el Uno, somos uno, en ComUNIDAD,

spanis

The Kindom of heaven is like...



Morning, Church!

Have you noticed the saturating presence of sports gambling sites advertised in the media? These companies dare you to dare and take a risk and gamble with them.

We take big and little risks all the time. Taking risks is part of human behavior. Our risks teach and form us on what's valuable or invaluable. Taking risks will either deepen our faith or depreciate it.

Matthew's trio of parables show us that, when it comes to faith, taking risks has great value. These parables confront our priorities: what do you treasure or prize the most? What will be required of you to protect and nurture your values and precious relationships?

Jesus' parables lured his listeners in, then surprised them with God's Divine Reversal, that you must give your whole self to God, your true treasure.

God's Kindom (akin to God) must be desired above everyone and everything. The "sell" off, to sacrifice all the unnecessaries hoarded in our soul.

Sacrificing is costly. It costs you your will, your wants, your time, your comforts, your routines, and your ego.

There's a Treasure in the field, a Pearl of Great Price, and an abundantly full Net. It's not a gamble to take a risk on the Kindom of God. The outcome is certain, and the hope of reward is rewarded eternally.

*The question is: are you willing to take a risk
and "bet" on Jesus and the Kindom of God?*

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

spanis

JUNE ~ JULY	
26	17th Sunday OT
28	Communion Service, 12:15p
 29	Choir, 7p
02	18th Sunday OT
04	Communion Service, 12:15p
09	19th Sunday OT
 10	Ladies Guild, 5p
11	Communion Service, 12:15p
 12	Choir, 7p
16	20th Sunday OT
 17	Give Blood, EV Baptist Ch 1:30-6:00p
 18	Communion Service, 12:15p OCIA Inquiry, 6:30p
  19	OCIA Mystagogia, 7p Choir, 7p
 20	Wise Ones, Cracker Barrel J'ville, 1p Host: Lana
 22	Men's Breakfast, Cracker Barrel, 8:30a
23	21st Sunday OT
25	Communion Service, 12:15p
 26	Choir, 7p
30	22nd Sunday OT

☪ Mass Intentions	
26	+Michael J. Hicks r/b Anthony Caracciolo +Thom McGee
02	+Msgr. Thomas P. Ivory St. S Parishioners
09	Gary V. McQuade +Anna Maria
16	+Carmen Priore r/b Barbara & Paul Piquet S. Donna Loeper, SSJ
23	+Thomas Dursee +Damien Whisonant
30	+JoAnn Skinner r/b Patti Taddio Lucas Brown

Birthdays & Anniversaries



26 Frank Simon	29 Julian Espino
27 Abigail Mariano	31 Lauren Peruzzo
27 Jacquie & John Darcey	29 Christine & Bryan Whitler
02 Maria Ledesma	 15 Jane Worley
05 Natalie Williams	16 Baker Kageorge
06 Rudy Ardizzola	17 Sergio Hernandez
Matt Brown	20 Joe Stvartak
07 Mary Blackburn	21 Yolanda Castillo
08 Maythe Garcia	23 Judy Berryman
09 Ashley Davis	24 Gayle Altemueller
Joel Lopez, Sr.	Leo Ouellette
Jim Schmitgal	25 Luisa Rodriguez
10 Anayeli Bustos	Hannah Treannie
Fr. John Hanic	26 Pat Kophamer
05 S. Janis McQuade, SSJ	11 Olivia & Isidro Rodriguez
31 Judy & Ron Berryman	



Celebrating 70 Years 70 Acts of Kindness



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 good deeds which you will offer at Mass on the

Feast of the Holy Family, Sunday, December 27.

The Kingdom of Heaven is Like...



In today's Gospel reading, Jesus tells the disciples what the Kingdom of Heaven is like. He says it is like a buried treasure, that when a man finds it, he sells everything he has and buys the field where it is hidden. He also says it is like a pearl of great price, that when a merchant finds it he sells all he has and buys it.

These parables tell us how precious the Kingdom of Heaven is. Jesus is explaining that it is more important than anything else in our lives. The men in the parables sold EVERYTHING they had to get the treasures.

But what is the Kingdom of Heaven? Is it a country with a king and subjects? Well it is, sort of, but you can't see it. Jesus is the King and His people are the people who choose Him as their King. The laws of the kingdom are God's laws, and the enemy is the devil who is trying to take all the souls. Always remember that belonging to God's Kingdom is more important than everything else in your life!

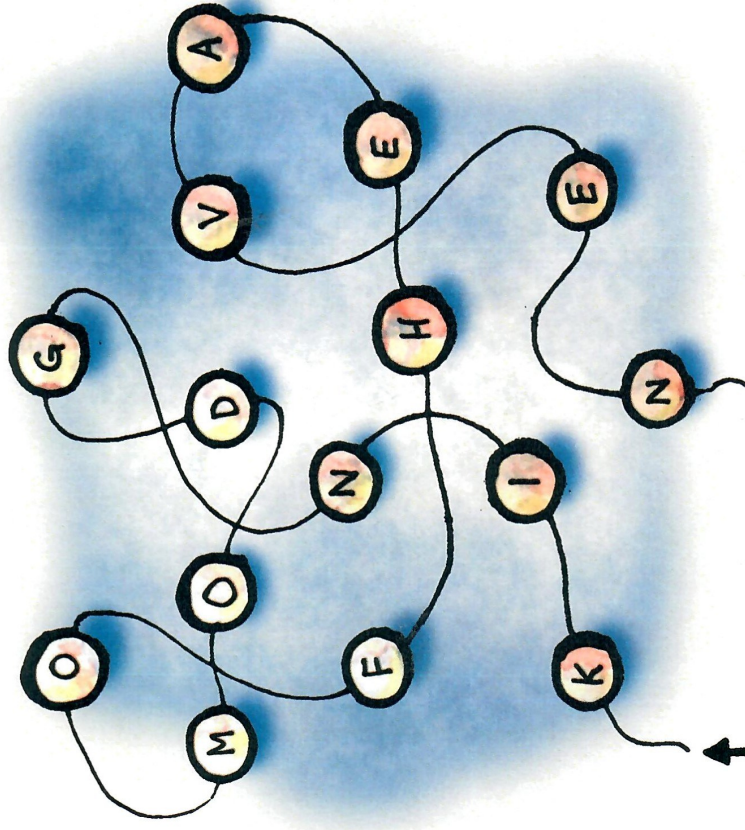


Answer to front page: Kingdom of Heaven
 Answers to Cross-word:
 across: 2.judge 4.act 6.who 7.wisdom
 10.mere 12.wrong 15.God 17.heart
 18.servant 22.numbered 24.king
 down: 1.how 3.understanding 4.able 5.to
 8.man 9.people 11.right 14.govern 16.give
 18.serve 19.said 20.Lord 21.ask 23.me

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 July 26th, 2026

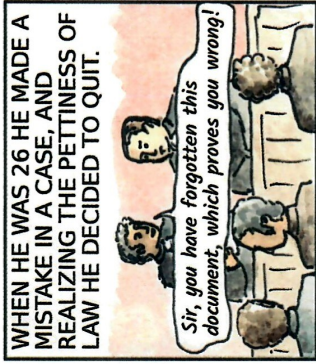


What did Jesus say was like a buried treasure
 or a pearl of great price?
 Use the letters on the string of pearls
 to fill in the blanks and find out!

The _____

Saint Alphonsus Liguori

August 1



SAINT ALPHONSUS USED HIS INTELLIGENCE TO TEACH THE IGNORANT PEOPLE IN HIS DIOCESE, AND WHEN HE WAS TOO SICK TO PREACH HE WOULD WRITE. GOD HAS GIVEN YOU GIFTS THAT YOU CAN USE TO HELP TEACH OTHERS ABOUT HIM. DON'T LET ANYTHING STOP YOU, JUST LIKE ST. ALPHONSUS DIDN'T!

thabitachullatin@gmail.com

King Solomon's Dream Cross-Word

God _____ (19d) to the young _____ (24a) Solomon in a dream, " _____ (21d) _____ (23d) for whatever you want me to _____ (16d) you."

Solomon knew that he was only a young _____ (8d) and couldn't rule God's people without His help. So he said _____ (5d) God, "O _____ (20d), I am a _____ (10a) youth, not knowing _____ (1d) to _____ (4a). I _____ (18d) you in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a people so vast that it cannot be _____ (22a) or counted. Give your _____ (18a), therefore, an _____ (3d) _____ (17a) to _____ (2a) your people and to distinguish _____ (11d) from _____ (12a). For _____ (6a) is _____ (4d) to _____ (14d) this vast _____ (9d) of yours?"

_____ (15a) was pleased with Solomon's request and told him that He would grant him _____ (7a) greater than anyone else had ever had or would have.

Use the words from this list to fill in the blanks and figure out the cross-word.

UNDERSTANDING
ME NUMBERED
TO SERVANT
ASK WISDOM
ACT GOVERN
GIVE WRONG
SAID PEOPLE
GOD JUDGE
WHO HEART
MAN RIGHT
KING SERVE
HOW LORD
ABLE MERE

