All are welcome!
Bienvenidos!
Chào mừng!

Sunday Mass, 9:00a

Holy Days, 7:00p

Communion Service
Tuesdays, 12:15p

Sacrament of Baptism
Preparation
1st Saturdays
Call Temoc (828) 773-2353

O.C.I.A.
Adults desiring to explore the Catholic faith, contact Sister Janis
(336) 835-4542

Sacrament of Reconciliation
by appointment
Fr. Engelbert
(704) 578-2478
Fr. John
(704) 763-2475 or after Mass

Sacrament of Matrimony
One year to six months prior to the wedding, contact S. Janis
(336) 835-4542

Anointing of the Sick
Fr. Engelbert
(704) 578-2478
Fr. John
(704) 763-2475
S. Janis
(336) 835-4542



St. Stephen Catholic Church

101 Hawthorne Road Elkin NC 28621
Email: Connect@StStephenNC.org
Website: www.StStephenNC.org
(336) 835-3007

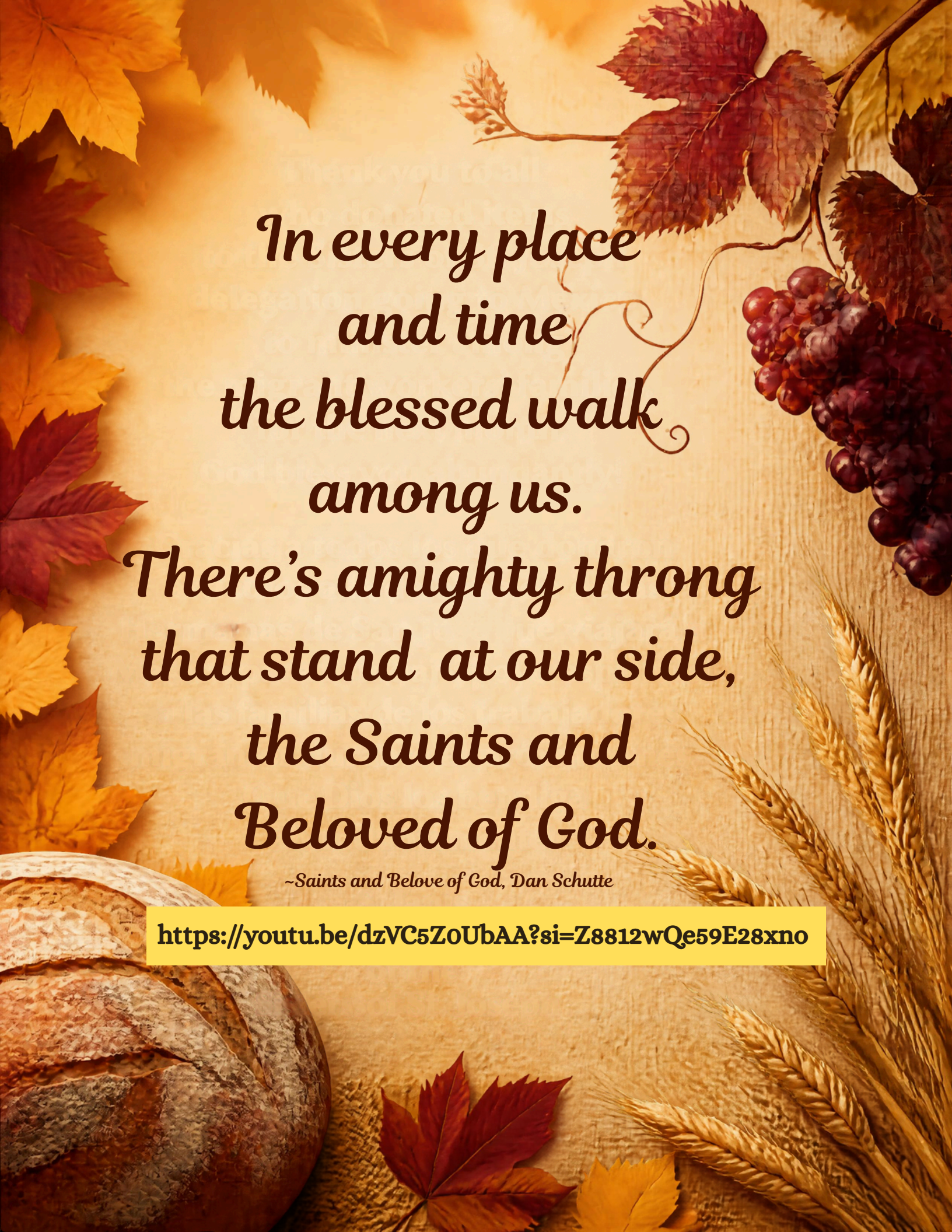
November 8, 2026 **8 noviembre 2026**

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
XXXIII Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Stay Awake

you do not know
the day nor the hour




In every place
and time
the blessed walk
among us.
There's amighty throng
that stand at our side,
the Saints and
Beloved of God.
~Saints and Belove of God, Dan Schutte
https://youtu.be/dzVC5Z0UbAA?si=Z8812wQe59E28xno

We Remember, We Celebrate, We Believe

Donor	Remembering
Theresa Martin	El-Khouri Family, Isaac Family, Jabaley Family, Thomas Family, Martin Family, Dan Gerber
Peggy Reikowsky	Pat Chatham, James Dana, Lynda Dana, Marjorie Dana

Eternal rest, grant them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen+



Celebrating 70 Acts of Kindness in gratitude for 70 years of St. Stephen Church

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. Stephenbon December 26.

Keep a record of your loving acts
They will offer at Mass on the
Feast of the Holy Family.
Sunday. December 27.



Thank you...

...Francis Ritz & Israel Lynch
who baked 100 "Soul Cakes"
for our Faith Formation Families
in celebration
of All Saints & All Souls Day,..
...Phillip & Debbie Parrish
for the marvelous arrangement
over the tabernacle
and those that grace the church doors

y'all are Saints-in-the-Making!

Pastoral Staff

Music Ministry
Theresa Martin
(336) 816-0214

Pastoral Associate
Sister Janis McQuade, S.S.J.
(336)835-4542

Administrator
Fr. Engelbert Ofon
(704)578-2478

O.C.I.A.
For adults wishing
to explore the Catholic Faith.
Contact S. Janis

Family Faith Formation
Sundays
10:15-11:45a
Lupe Hernandez
Israel Lynch
Jessica Nieland
Beth Orta
Peggy Reikowsky

Ladies Guild
Aileen Cahill
2nd Mondays, 5p

Men's Group
Men's Breakfast Group
Jospeh Spears
3rd Saturday, 8:30a
Cracker barrel
Jonesville

NOVEMBER



01 Feast of All Saint ~ Mass, 9a
Family Faith Formation, 10:15-11:45a
SSJ ZOOM, 7:00-8::30p

02 All Souls Day ~ Mass, 5p
OCIA Inquiry, 7p

03 Mass, 12:15p

04 Choir, 7p

08 32nd Sun OT ~ Mass, 9a
Family Faith Formation, 10:15-11:45a
Honor our Veterans

09. OCIA Inquiry, 6:30p

10 Ministerial Assoication, 12N
Mass, 12:15p

11 Choir, 7p

15 33rd Sun OT
Family Faith Formation, 10:15-11:45a

16 Give Blood ~ Elkin Rescue Sqd, 1:30-6:00p

17 Mass, 12:15p

18 Choir, 7p
OCIA Mystagogia, 7p

19 Wise Ones ~ Chinese Buffet, N. Bridge St. 1p
Hosts: Ayda & Sheldon

21 Men's Breakfast, Cracker Barrel, 8:30a
Christmas Shoe Box Packing Party, 10a-2p

22 Feast: Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
OCIA Rite of Welcome ~ Mass, 9a
Family Faith Formation, 10:15-11:45a

23 OCIA Catechumenate, 7p

24 Mass, 12:15p

25 Choir, 7p

26 Happy Thanksgiving!

29 1st Sun Advent ~ Mass 9a
Family Faith Formation, 10:15-11:45a

30 OCIA Catechumenate, 7p

Lit!

Are you awake or asleep, conscious or unconscious, alive or walking dead? How do you handle tasks that need to be done? Do them promptly or procrastinate?

Today's Word is about being wise and on-your-toes prepared. To be wise is to be prepared so you have room to anticipate if circumstances change.

This is true in your spiritual life, too. How ready are you for Christ who comes, often camouflaged, ready to respond to his call to be present and to serve?

Sometimes your faithjourney can be like the "long night" mentioned in the parable. You get caught off guard, even "sleeping", unaware of Christ standing right in front of you.

The oil lamp is the sacred symbol of the light of faith and how wisely you live your faith. Unlike lamps today, oil lamps need constant care and attention.

The first century Christians believed Jesus would return soon. They quickly realized they had moved into the "long night", with no sense of when The Light would return.

They had to keep their "oil lamps" full of faith and their wick trimmed ~ living their discipleship authentically each day.

How are you anticipating meeting Christ?
Which of your actions have proven to be wise,
and which have proved to be unwise?

Keep living your faith, so
"...when Christ comes you can go out and
meet him with all the angel and saints."
~ Rite of Baptism

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

Yanis

¡Que brille tu luz!

¿Estás despierto o dormido, consciente o inconsciente, vivo o eres un «muerto viviente»? ¿Cómo afrontas las tareas que deben realizarse? ¿Las llevas a cabo con prontitud o las pospones?

La reflexión de hoy trata sobre la sabiduría y la preparación vigilante. Ser sabio significa estar preparado, de modo que cuentes con margen para anticiparte si las circunstancias cambian.

Esto también es válido para tu vida espiritual. ¿Qué tan preparado estás para recibir a Cristo, quien llega —a menudo de forma encubierta—, y qué tan dispuesto estás a responder a su llamado para hacerte presente y servir?

A veces, tu camino de fe puede asemejarse a la «larga noche» que se menciona en la parábola. Puedes ser tomado por sorpresa, incluso encontrarte «dormido», sin darte cuenta de que Cristo está justo frente a ti.

La lámpara de aceite es el símbolo sagrado de la luz de la fe y de la sabiduría con la que vives dicha fe. A diferencia de las lámparas actuales, las lámparas de aceite requieren un cuidado y una atención constantes.

Los cristianos del primer siglo creían que Jesús regresaría pronto. Pronto se dieron cuenta de que habían entrado en una «larga noche», sin saber cuándo volvería la Luz.

Debían mantener sus «lámparas de aceite» llenas de fe y sus mechas bien recortadas, viviendo su discipulado de manera auténtica cada día.

¿Cómo te preparas para el encuentro con Cristo?
¿Cuáles de tus acciones han demostrado ser sabias,
y cuáles han resultado ser poco sensatas?

Sigue viviendo tu fe, para que
«...cuando Cristo venga, puedas salir a
su encuentro junto con todos
los ángeles y los santos».
~ Rito del Bautismo

En el Único, somos uno... en COMUNIDAD

Yanis

CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX PACKING PARTY
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21
10:00a ~ 2:00p
Family Life Center
Collect Service Hours
or
Designate this as one of your
70 Acts of Kindness for 70 Years.

EVENTO DE EMPAQUETADO DE CAJAS DE ZAPATOS PARA NAVIDAD
SÁBADO, 21 DE NOVIEMBRE
10:00 a. m. – 2:00 p. m.
Centro de Vida Familiar (Family Life Center)
Acumula horas de servicio
o
incluye esta actividad como uno de tus 70 actos de bondad por los 70 años.

Thank you for your generous contributions to our Operation Christmas Child Shoebox project. Many very nice items have been donated.
We still need items like: T-shirts, socks, hats, gloves, brushes, and combs.
Also, it costs $10.00 for Samaritan's Purse to ship a shoebox,
so if you would be willing to donate money for shipping,
that will also be very much appreciated.
You can make out checks to the St. Stephen Ladies' Guild.
On the MEMO line: *Shoebox Ministry.*

We invite ALL parishioners to join
our Faith Formation Families,
Men's Group, and Ladies Guild
to pack the boxes.

The Men's group and Ladies' Guild
can assist in supervising
the packing stations
and inspecting the completed boxes.



Birthdays



02 Jackie Wagoner
03 Eric Barrientos
04 Arelis Hadfield
Donna Stvartak
05 Shalya Ange
Ed Kageorge
06 Phil Martin
09 Debbie Parrish
14 Veronica Trinidad
15 Jane Norman
18 Ania Trejo
20 Reyna Hernandez
21 Newell Hauser
22 America Lopez
23 Katelyn Jarrard
25 Victor Bustos, Jr.
Stephen Faust
26 Victor Bustos, Sr.
27 Alejandro Carmona



Anniversaries

04 Roseamelia & Michael Kelly
06 Rosa & Gerardo Parral
13 Ayda Lopez & Sheldon Chanes
16 Ramona & Jim Doyle
17 Epi & Julian Cortez

y'all are Saints-in-the-Making!



ST.S BULLETIN BOARD

2026 TRI-C MINISTRIES ALMSGIVING

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

PRAY

END TO ALL WAR AND GUN VIOLENCE, ESPECIALLY IN SCHOOLS

THANK YOU

to our wonderful ladies who faithfully clean our church

NOVEMBER MASS

TUESDAYS

12:15p

Fr. Berto

RECYCLE

TYVM for RECYCLING YOUR INK CARTRIDGES AT CHURCH.
GOOD for EARTH & HELPS the CHURCH.

UPCOMING FUNDRAISER

SMASH BURGERS

Watch your bulletin for more information.

70 FOR 70

70 Acts for 70 Years
Decide each day how you will show kindness or gratitude in meaningful ways.

Always be Ready



Have you ever thought to yourself that it would be better to have fun and be bad now, and then be good later? That's what some of the bridesmaids in today's parable were like. They only brought enough oil for their lamps, and didn't bother to bring any extra. But the other bridesmaids had been wise and took along extra flasks to refill their lamps when it got late. When the bridegroom came, those who hadn't brought extra oil were gone, getting more oil, and missed the feast!



Sometimes people say that they have lots of time to change from their evil ways, so they don't repent right away. This parable shows us that it is very foolish to leave important things until later. Nobody knows when they will die, so we should always be ready.

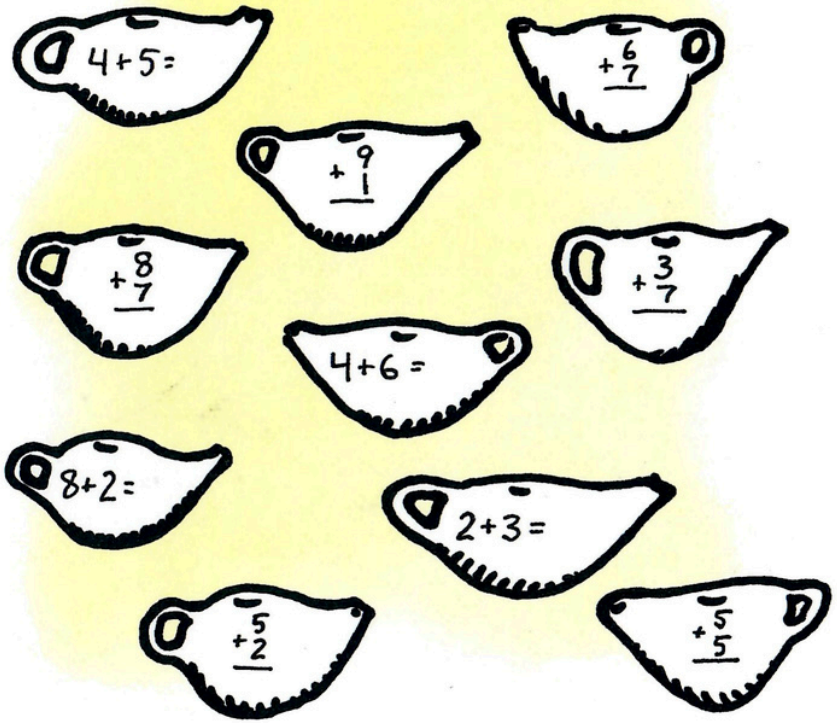
Be WISE!
Pay attention
and listen for Jesus' voice
when he asks you to serve



Answer to front puzzle: 5 had extra oil.
Answer to Word Find: My soul thirts for thee.

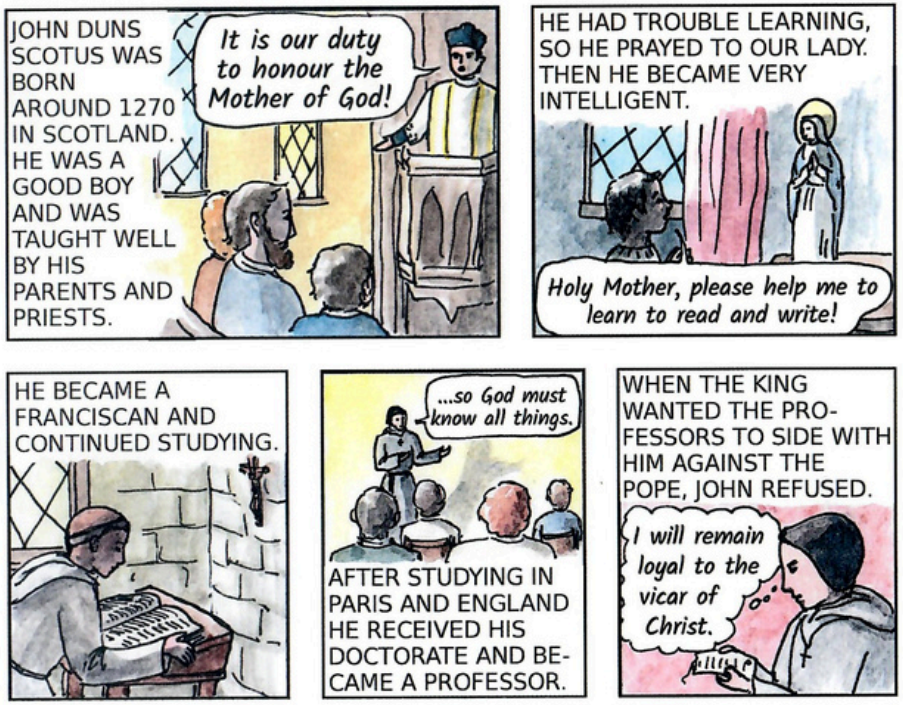
The Kids' Bulletin

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 8th, 2026



In today's parable, ten bridesmaids are waiting with their lamps. How many of them brought extra oil? Figure out the problems on each lamp. Colour in the ones that equal 10 to find out the answer!

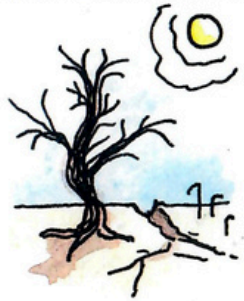
Blessed John Duns Scotus
November 8



BLESSED JOHN KNEW THAT THERE IS NOTHING MORE IMPORTANT THAN KNOWING, LOVING, AND SERVING GOD. HE HAD A GREAT THIRST TO UNDERSTAND HIM BETTER SO HE STUDIED HARD. THE MORE HE UNDERSTOOD ABOUT GOD THE MORE HE COULD TEACH OTHERS ABOUT HIM. WE SHOULD PRAY FOR GOOD TEACHERS.

Psalm 63 Word-Find

See if you can find all the words in CAPITALS in this part of today's Psalm. The leftover letters will spell out a little prayer to God when you write them in the blanks at the end.



P A R C H E D P O W E R
M W Y S B A N Q U E T W
O I T H I R S T S U L I
S L I P S T O W A R D T
A L T H P H U F L E S H
N A M E I G L O R Y I O
C A L L N O I R S T W U
T G A Z E D V S F O A T
U B L E S S E M O U T H
A L I F E H A N D S E R
R I C H E S G O O D R T
Y H E E K I N D N E S S

O GOD, you are my God whom I SEEK;
for you my FLESH PINES and my soul THIRSTS
like the EARTH, PARCHED and WITHOUT WATER.

Thus have I GAZED TOWARD you in the SANCTUARY
to see your POWER and your GLORY,
for your KINDNESS is a greater GOOD than LIFE;
my lips shall glorify you.

Thus WILL I BLESS you while I LIVE;
lifting up my HANDS, I will CALL upon your NAME.
As with the RICHES of a BANQUET shall my SOUL be satisfied,
and with exultant LIPS my MOUTH shall praise you.

__ _____ ________ ____ ____