

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

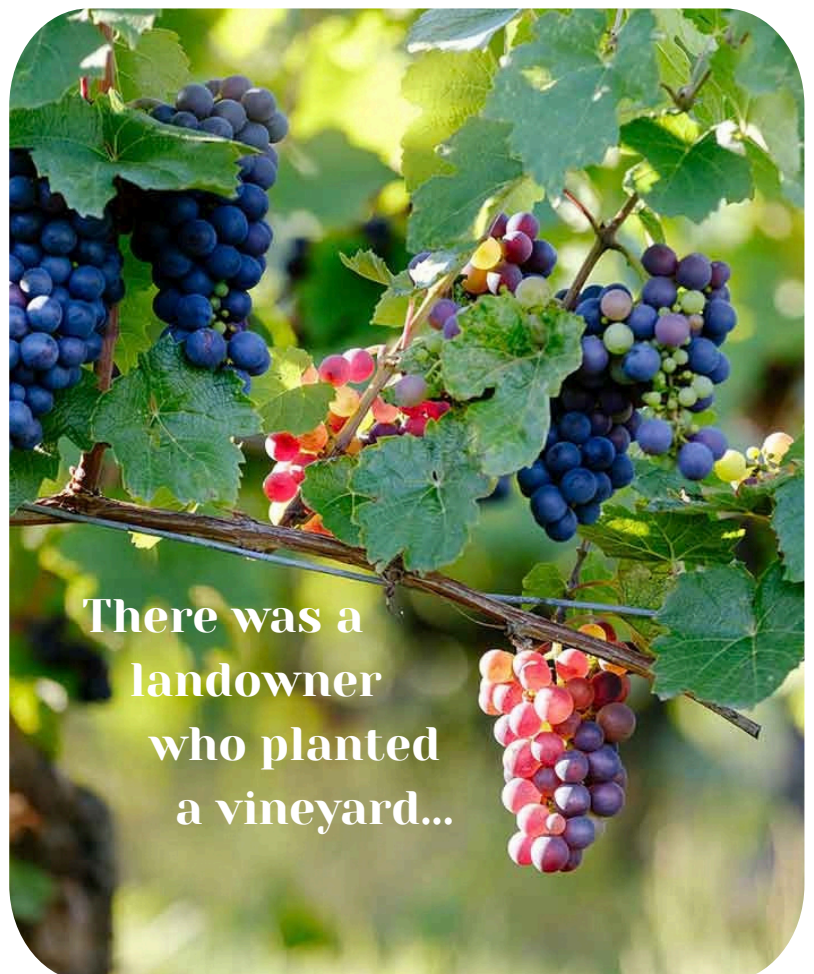
(336) 835-3007

October 4, 2026

4 octobre 2026

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

XXVII Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario



**There was a
landowner
who planted
a vineyard...**

Pastoral Staff

Administrator
Fr. Engelbert Ofon
(704) 578-2478

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

Music Ministry
Theresa Martin

O.C.I.A.
Mondays, 7:00-8:30p
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
Family Life Center

MEN'S GROUP

Men's Breakfast
Joseph Spears
3rd Saturday, 8:30a
Cracker Barrel
Jonesville

OCTOBER



03 Parish Spaghetti Dinner, 5:30-7:30p, FLC

04 27th Sun OT ~ Mass, 9a
Family Faith Formation, 10:15-11:45a

05 OCIA Inquiry, 6:30p

06 Communion Service, 12:15p

07 Choir, 7p

11 28th Sun OT
Family Faith Formation, 10:15-11:45a

12 OCIA Inquiry, 6:30p

13 Communion Service, 12:15p

14 Choir, 7p

15 SSJ Founder's Day 1650 - 2026
Wise Ones, 1p

17 Men's Breakfast, Cracker Barrel, 8:30a

18 29th Sun OT ~ Anointing Mass
Family Faith Formation, 10:15-11:45a

19 OCIA Inquiry, 6:30p
Give blood EV Baptist Ch. 1:30-6:00p

20 Communion Service, 12:15p

21 OCIA Mystagoga, 7p; Choir, 7p

25 30th Sun OT
Family Faith Formation, 10:15-11:45a

26 OCIA Inquiry, 6:30p

27 Communion Service, 12:15p

28 Choir, 7p



Anointing Mass
October 18, 9:00a

All Souls Day Mass
November 2, 7:00p

What has God done for you? What have you done for God?

Mornin', Church!

Today's Word reminded me of the 2017 field trip taken by our Faith Formation Families to Heritage Vineyards. Pat and Clyde Colwell welcomed us and explained the process of making wine, from selecting the vines to labeling their bottles.

The symbolism in today's allegories invite us to unpack their meaning individually, as a parish, and as a Church. The Divine Vintner has entrusted us with a fertile field. Bringing home a rich harvest requires a life-long commitment, deep faith, and faithfulness.

Farming on the hillside is labor-intensive. In Isaiah, The Divine Vintner does all the work: prepares the field, spades the soil, removes all the stones, and builds a wall to protect it from foraging animals. Finally, he hones a winepress out of the bedrock, without the help of machinery! All his efforts and hopes are crushed at harvest time when the crop yields only wild, worthless grapes.

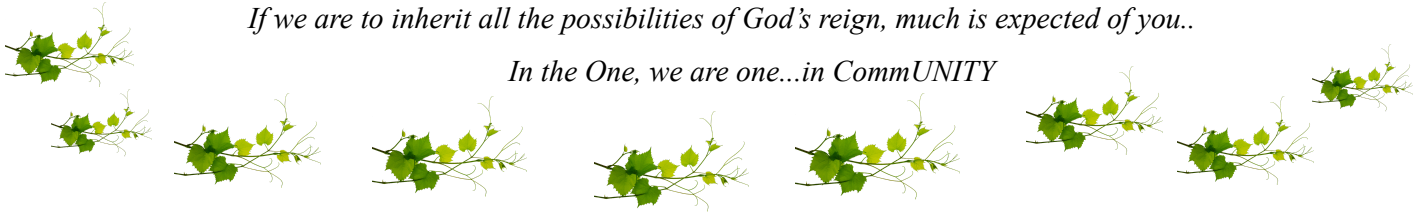
The meticulous preparation of the field shows the same meticulous, care of the Divine Vintner. Isaiah speaks of God's hope juxtaposed with God's frustration. God hopes we will lead fruitful lives. God is frustrated by our injustices that reek havoc on God's prized vineyard and on God's servants. Israel learns their injustices have consequences. Disregarding their sacred covenant with God yields a pitiful harvest of sour, useless grapes.

You can judge the tenants for the wild grapes that yield a wasted harvest, killing the Vintner's servants and only son. Or you can make virtuous choices recommended to the Philippians, ones that are: "just, pure...lovely...and gracious..."

The Divine Vintner has done everything for you.

If we are to inherit all the possibilities of God's reign, much is expected of you..

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



¿Qué ha hecho Dios por ti?

¿Qué has hecho tú por Dios?

¡Buenos días, Iglesia!

La Palabra de hoy me recordó la excursión que nuestras familias del programa de formación en la fe realizaron en 2017 a Heritage Vineyards. Pat y Clyde Colwell nos recibieron y nos explicaron el proceso de elaboración del vino, desde la selección de las vides hasta el etiquetado de las botellas.

El simbolismo de las alegorías de hoy nos invita a desentrañar su significado a nivel individual, como parroquia y como Iglesia. El Divino Viñador nos ha confiado un campo fértil. Recoger una cosecha abundante requiere un compromiso de por vida, una fe profunda y fidelidad.

El cultivo en la ladera exige mucho trabajo. En el libro de Isaías, el Divino Viñador realiza toda la labor: prepara el terreno, remueve la tierra, retira las piedras y construye un muro para protegerlo de los animales que buscan alimento. Por último, talla un lagar en la roca madre, ¡sin ayuda de maquinaria! Todos sus esfuerzos y esperanzas se ven frustrados en la época de la cosecha, cuando la viña produce únicamente uvas silvestres y sin valor.

La meticulosa preparación del terreno refleja el cuidado igualmente minucioso del Divino Viñador. Isaías habla de la esperanza de Dios frente a su frustración. Dios espera que llevemos vidas fructíferas, pero se siente frustrado por nuestras injusticias, que causan estragos en su preciada viña y entre sus siervos. Israel aprende que sus injusticias tienen consecuencias: ignorar la alianza sagrada con Dios produce una cosecha lamentable de uvas agrias e inútiles.

Puedes juzgar a los labradores por esas uvas silvestres que resultan en una cosecha perdida, y por matar a los siervos y al único hijo del Viñador. O bien, puedes tomar las decisiones virtuosas recomendadas a los filipenses: aquellas que son «justas, puras...amables... dignas de aprecio...».

El Divino Viñador lo ha hecho todo por ti.

Si hemos de heredar todas las posibilidades del Reino de Dios, se espera mucho de ti.

En el Uno, somos uno, en ComUNIDAD,



You Are Invited to a Free
**COMMUNITY
MEAL**

**St. Stephen
mark your
calendar
& plan to
attend!!!**

CHICKEN STEW
CHICKEN & DUMPLINGS

**WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER, 28, 2026
6:00 - 7:30 PM**

**JOIN US AS WE DISCOVER
SIGNIFICANT EVENTS & SACRED PLACES OF ELKIN**

**First Baptist Church
110 Gwyn Ave.
Elkin, NC**





Come and join us for the
St. Stephen Ladies Guild

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

Saturday October 3

5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Family Life Center



MENU

Spaghetti and Meatballs

Green Salad

Italian Bread

Dessert

Coffee (Decaf) or Juice

Bring your own wine



TICKETS

\$12.00 for adults

\$3.00 for children (3 to 10 years)

Tickets should be bought in advance

available after Masses

September 6, 13, 20 and 27





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.

Birthdays

01 Ellen Bernabe

Daniela Trejo

03 Nancy Hubbard

Gerardo Parral

04 Ngoe Vo

06 Marisol Ledesma

08 Maria Mata

Sergio Loyola

10 Angel Ledesma

11 Beth Orta

12 Natalie Williams

14 Raquel Martinez

15 Geovani Spicer

18 Vanessa Spicer

19 Yaneli Nava

20 John Darcey

22 Ruben Ramirez

Lelany Garcia

25 Beth Altemueller

26 Ramona Doyle

Anniversaries

10 Andrea Faw & Stephen Faust

14 Cathie & Jim Schmitgal

15 Kristen & Matt Brown

17 Donna & Joe Stvartak

20 Brittany Reece & Edward Kageorge

22 Liza Go & Jeff Harris

25 Samantha & Andrew Ange

Thank you...

...Greg Billings for repairing the deacon chair...

...Judy Simon, for making Baptism stoles...

**our Ladies Guild for providing
a wonderful spaghetti supper...**

ST.S BULLETIN BOARD

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

THANK YOU

...TO OUR LADIES
GUILD FOR THE
WONDERFUL
SPAGHETTI DINNER

YOU'RE INVITED

Community Meal
October 28
EFBC
4:30-6:30p

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.

The Kids' Bulletin

God cared for Him in charge. But the

In a way your life is like a vineyard too. God has given it to you and cared for you all your life. When God wants you to do something for Him, you have the choice of doing what He asks or being like the bad tenants and refusing. Whenever we don't do what is right, we are offending Jesus. But you don't want to be like those bad tenants, do you? Make sure that everything you do is for God!

GOD GAVE
ME TALENTS
TO HELP
OTHERS...

 A cartoon illustration of a young girl with brown hair in a braid, wearing a red shirt. She is sitting and writing in a blue notebook with a pencil. The background is yellow.

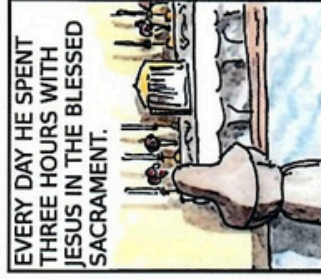
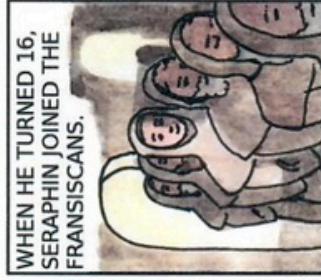
DEHIKLMTY

[illegible]

D E H I K L M T Y

Saint Seraphin

October 12



SAINT SERAPHIN NEVER DID ANYTHING GREAT OR IMPORTANT, BUT HE DID EVERYTHING WITH GREAT LOVE FOR GOD. HE TRIED TO BE LIKE SAINT FRANCIS IN HIS ZEAL AND LOVE OF THE POOR. LIKE SAINT SERAPHIN, WE CAN IMITATE THE SAINTS AND DO EVERY LITTLE THING OUT OF LOVE OF GOD.

The Evil Tenants Word-Find



Find the words that are in CAPITALS in the puzzle and use the left-over letters to fill in the blanks:

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

Jesus told this PARABLE: There was a landowner who planted a VINEYARD and built a tower and a WINE PRESS. When he went away, he LEASED it to tenants. In time, he sent SERVANTS to get his PRODUCE, but the tenants BEAT one, killed one, and STONED another. The man sent more servants, but the TENANTS did the same thing AGAIN. Finally, he sent his SON, thinking that they would RESPECT him at least. But the tenants saw the son coming and said, "Here comes the HEIR. If we kill him we can get his INHERITANCE!" So they SEIZED him, THREW him out and KILLED him too!

Jesus asked, "What will the land OWNER do when he COMES?"

The people said, "Put the tenants to DEATH and lease the vineyard to tenants who WILL pay."