



St. Stephen Catholic Church

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www.StStephenNC.org

Fr. Englebert Ofon

Administrator

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Pastoral Associate

(336)835-3007

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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.



Come and join us for the
St. Stephen Ladies Guild

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

Saturday, October 3
5:30pm to 7:30pm
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.

The Accountability of Forgiveness

Morning, Church!

The disciples knew very well Jesus' position on forgiveness. He made it crystal clear in *The Lord's Prayer*. Like the disciples, we often engage forgiveness from a place of minimalism, "How far do I have to go in forgiving others?"

Like the lawyer who asked, "Who is my neighbor?", often forgiveness is understood on the boundaries and the limits you create. Quantifying forgiveness, using numbers or keeping count of your forgiving moments is absurd ~ especially if you're truly following the gospel.

All of us are in spiritual debt to God. *All of us* are indebted to others. Yet, many of us have the attitude that others "owe" us and need to "pay their debts."

Today's parable highlights how life-giving compassionate justice is and how our accountability to our God and our Neighbor is unavoidable. The king's outright forgiveness serves as Jesus' model of forgiveness for *all of us*.

Don't waste your time calculating whether or not you will forgive those indebted to you. **Remember:** Christ died for your sins and didn't count what it *truly* cost him physically, psychologically, mentally, or spiritually. Christ's debt-canceling death on the cross is *priceless*.

When you approach forgiveness from a misguided minimalistic perspective, you measure as the world measures, not as Jesus does.

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



"...forgive us
our debts
as we forgive
our debtors..."

La responsabilidad del perdón

¡Buenos días, Iglesia!

Los discípulos conocían muy bien la postura de Jesús sobre el perdón; Él la dejó clarísima en la oración del *Padre Nuestro*. Al igual que ellos, a menudo abordamos el perdón desde una perspectiva minimalista: «¿Hasta dónde debo llegar al perdonar a los demás?».

Tal como el experto en la ley que preguntó «¿Quién es mi prójimo?», a menudo entendemos el perdón basándonos en los límites y fronteras que nosotros mismos establecemos. Cuantificar el perdón —usar números o llevar la cuenta de las veces que perdonamos— es absurdo, especialmente si realmente seguimos el Evangelio.

Todos tenemos una deuda espiritual con Dios y *todos* estamos en deuda con los demás. Sin embargo, muchos adoptamos la actitud de que los otros nos «deben» algo y tienen que «pagar sus deudas».

La parábola de hoy destaca cuán vivificante es la justicia compasiva y cuán inevitable es nuestra responsabilidad ante Dios y el prójimo. El perdón absoluto del rey sirve como modelo del perdón de Jesús para *todos nosotros*.

No pierdas el tiempo calculando si perdonarás o no a quienes te deben algo. **Recuerda:** Cristo murió por tus pecados y no contabilizó el *verdadero* costo que ello supuso para él en los planos físico, mental, psicológico o espiritual. La muerte de Cristo en la cruz, que cancela toda deuda, tiene un valor *incalculable*.

Cuando abor das el perdón desde una perspectiva minimalista y errónea, mides las cosas como lo hace el mundo, no como lo hace Jesús.

En el Uno, somos uno, en ComUNIDAD,



«...perdónanos nuestras
deudas así como nosotros
perdonamos
a nuestros deudores...»

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



**Catholic Grandparents
Association
World Day
for Grandparents
Sept 12th & 13th**

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

**Faith Formation
Registration
By Sunday,
Sept 13**



☪ Mass Intentions	
06	+Elizabeth & Michael Karaffa; +Dr. Bob Gochnauer +Ellyn M. Garwood +Kathleen Hyer
13	+Fr. Jim Buchholtz r/b Jane & Rob Worley +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	18 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



S. Catherine Maureen Larkin, S.S.J.

Given by God May 31, 1932

Given to God September 3, 2026

in her 76th year as a SSJ

**ONE WITH OUR
DEAR NEIGHBORS**
IMMIGRANTS, REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS





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

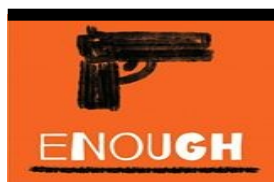
¿Estarías dispuesto
a servir en el altar como acólito?

Sesiones de preparación
12 & 26 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. 26
10:30-12Noon



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

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 ~ 3rd Thursdays
NO COST
FBC Elkin
110 Gwyn Avenue
(336) 835-1998
www.elkinfbc.com



If you want to be forgiven....

In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells the story of a king whose servant owed him a lot of money. The king was going to punish the servant, but when the man knelt down and begged for mercy, the king forgave him. Then that same man went and punished a servant who owed him money. When the king found out about this he was very angry.



SORRY I RIPPED YOUR BOOK A BIT.



In this story Jesus is telling us that if we want God to forgive us our sins then we have to forgive the people who have hurt us.

Has anyone ever done something mean to you? How do you feel when that happens? Do you feel loving toward that person? Jesus tells us that we must forgive those people, even when they really hurt us, because we want God to forgive us too. Every time we sin God will still forgive us if we are sorry. If we want God to forgive us, then it's only fair for us to forgive others.

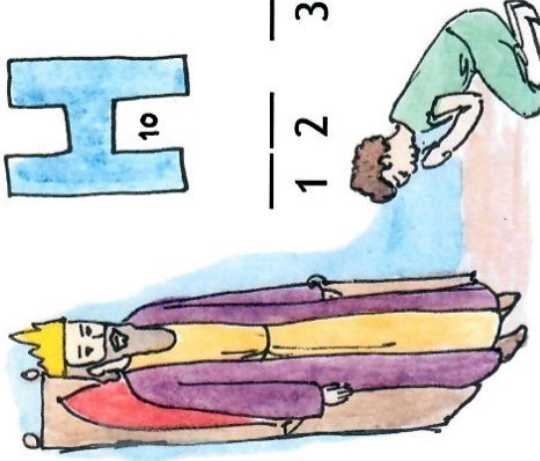
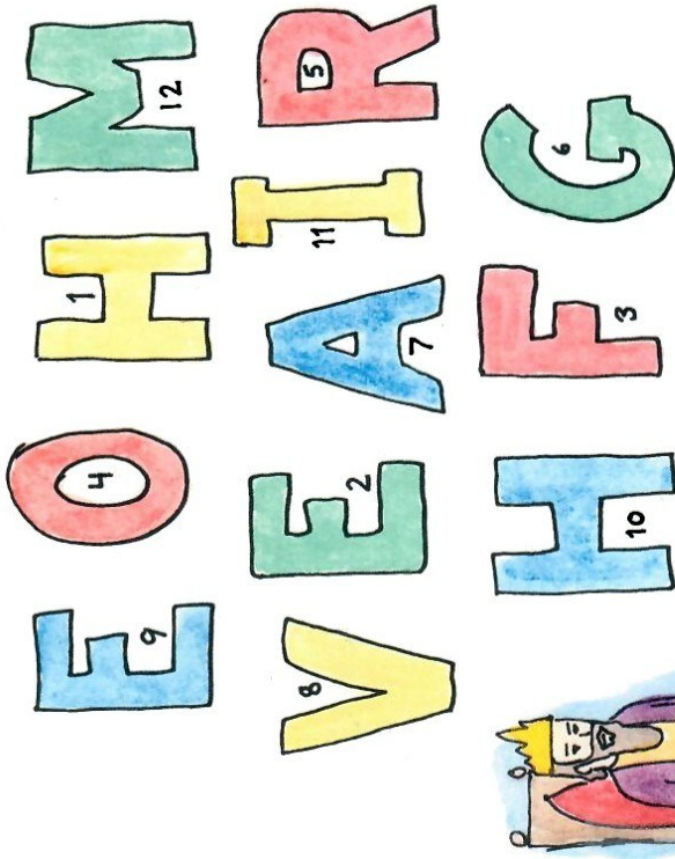


Answer to Sort-out-the-Pictures:
top to bottom: 4, 6, 3, 1, 2, 5
Answer to puzzle on front:
He forgave him.

The Kids' Bulletin

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 13th, 2026

*What did the king in today's parable do to the servant who owed him much but asked for forgiveness?
Use the numbers to sort the letters and find out!*



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
10 11 12

Our Lady of Sorrows

September 15



WHEN YOU REALLY LOVE SOMEONE YOU WILL FEEL SAD WHEN THEY ARE HURT. OUR LADY LOVED JESUS MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE EVER COULD, AND SHE ALSO SUFFERED MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE. BUT SHE WAS HAPPY TO SUFFER FOR JESUS. WE SHOULD PRAY TO OUR LADY TO HELP US TO LOVE OUR LORD, EVEN IF WE HAVE TO SUFFER.

The Unforgiving Servant

sort-out-the-pictures

What happened in today's parable?
Figure out the order of the story
and put the numbers from 1 to 6 in the boxes.

