



**St. John Baptiste de LaSalle Catholic Church**

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(336)838-5562  
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**St. Stephen Catholic Church**

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Elkin NC 28521-3016  
(336) 835-3007  
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Website: [www.StStephenNC.org](http://www.StStephenNC.org)

**Fr. John D. Hanic, V.F.** (704) 763-2475

**Rev. Mr. Harold Markle** (336) 466-4173

**S. Janis McQuade, S.S.J.** (336) 835-4542

**Fr. Jose Rebaque** (203) 954-7134

**Mr. Cuauhdemoc (Temoc) Herrejon** (828) 773-2353

**St. John**

**Temoc Herrejon** Faith Formation  
**Ann Stone** RCIA  
**Joel Everett** Music

**St. Stephen**

**S. Janis McQuade, S.S.J.** Faith Formation  
**Phillip Parrish** RCIA  
**Theresa Martin** Music

**Mass Schedule**

**St. John**

**Saturday** 4:00p  
**Sunday** 11:15a English  
1:00p en español  
**Wednesday** 11:00a

**St. Stephen**

**Sunday** 9:00a  
**Communion Service**  
**Tuesday, 12:15p**  
**Holy Days** 7:00p

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

**Saturday** 3:00 - 3:45p **By appointment**

**Welcome, New Parishioners!**

*We are a Stewardship community, who share our time, talent, and treasure in life-giving ways. We invite you to register with us by going to our website and completing the form on the Home page.*

**Sacrament Preparation**

Call S. Janis, (336) 835-4542

**Order of Christian Initiation (OCIA)**

*A way of exploring and seeking Christ through the Catholic faith.*

**Sacrament of Anointing and Pastoral Care of the Sick**

*If you, or someone you know is desirous of God's healing, contact S. Janis*



## **A Corporate Stand in Solidarity with Immigrants, Refugees and Asylum Seekers**

From our founding in 17<sup>th</sup>-century France, the Sisters of Saint Joseph have sought to respond to the needs of the times with courage, creativity and compassion. Our earliest Sisters went out into their neighborhoods to serve God and the dear neighbor without distinction—especially those who were poor, sick, marginalized or forgotten. They crossed boundaries of class and culture, embodying a spirituality of love and unity.

In our day, we recognize that the plight of immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers is one of the defining moral challenges of our age. Families are torn apart, human dignity is denied, and fear of the “other” is used as a strategy to divide communities. In the midst of this reality, we hear again the Gospel invitation and our founders’ call to become instruments of unioning love with God and with one another.

Compelled by our love for God and the dear neighbor, we commit ourselves to stand in solidarity with immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers here in the United States and throughout the world. We lament that countless human beings are being driven from their homelands because of poverty, lack of opportunity and employment, violence, war, persecution, and climate change caused by unjust global systems, many of which are directly influenced by U.S. policies. We decry the systemic racism and abuse of power which underlies and supports the inequality, exclusion and mistreatment of people of color and causes untold suffering to the human community.

We believe, as women of the Gospel, that the highest law is love. We pledge to use our resources and our prophetic voice to call on our elected leaders to advocate for just immigration reform and humane treatment of all those who are here in our country without legal status.

We urge one another to take personal steps, in loving prayer and action, to commit ourselves to ongoing education, advocacy and accompaniment of our immigrant neighbors.

We invite our Associates, Partners in Mission and all people of good will to stand with us as we commit to these principles and actions that will offer a future full of hope for all who are seeking welcome and a home in these United States.

We desire to live out this vision, encouraged and strengthened by our faith and our vowed commitment. We echo the sentiment of the US Catholic Bishops who wrote in their special pastoral message to immigrants: “We stand with you in your suffering, since when one member suffers, all suffer (1Cor.12:26). You are not alone!” (U.S. Bishops Special Pastoral Message to Immigrants, November 2025)



**UNA POSTURA CORPORATIVA  
EN SOLIDARIDAD CON  
LOS INMIGRANTES, LOS REFUGIADOS Y LOS SOLICITANTES DE ASILO**

Desde nuestra fundación en la Francia del siglo XVII, las Hermanas de San José han buscado responder a las necesidades de cada tiempo con valentía, creatividad y compasión. Nuestras primeras hermanas salieron a sus vecindarios para servir a Dios y al querido prójimo sin distinción — especialmente a quienes eran pobres, enfermos, marginados u olvidados. Cruzaron las fronteras de clase y cultura, encarnando una espiritualidad de amor y unidad.

En nuestro tiempo, reconocemos que la difícil situación de los inmigrantes, los refugiados y los solicitantes de asilo es uno de los desafíos morales más apremiantes de nuestra era. Las familias se desgarran, se niega la dignidad humana y el miedo al “otro” se utiliza como estrategia para dividir a las comunidades. En medio de esta realidad, volvemos a escuchar la invitación del Evangelio y el llamado de nuestro fundador y nuestras fundadoras a convertirnos en instrumentos del amor que une con Dios y con cada prójimo.

Impulsadas por nuestro amor por Dios y por el querido prójimo, nos comprometemos a estar en solidaridad con los inmigrantes, los refugiados y los solicitantes de asilo aquí en los Estados Unidos como en todo el mundo. Lamentamos que innumerables personas estén siendo expulsados de sus tierras natales debido a la pobreza, la falta de oportunidades y empleo, la violencia, la guerra, la persecución y el cambio climático fenómenos impulsados por sistemas globales injustos, muchos de los cuales están directamente influenciados por las políticas de los Estados Unidos. Denunciamos el racismo sistémico y el abuso de poder que subyacen y sostienen la desigualdad, la exclusión y el maltrato de las personas de color y que causan un sufrimiento incalculable a la comunidad humana.

Creemos, como mujeres del Evangelio, que la ley más alta es el amor. Nos comprometemos a utilizar nuestros recursos y nuestra voz profética para llamar a nuestros líderes electos a promover una reforma migratoria justa y un trato digno y humano para todas las personas que viven en nuestro país sin estatus legal.

Nos instamos mutuamente a asumir medidas personales, tanto en la oración como en la acción amorosas, mediante la educación continua, a la defensa y el acompañamiento de nuestros hermanos y nuestras hermanas inmigrantes.

Invitamos a nuestros Asociados y nuestras Asociadas, Socios en la Misión y a todas las personas de buena voluntad a unirse a nosotras en este compromiso, mientras nos comprometemos con los principios y las acciones que ofrecerán un futuro lleno de esperanza para todos aquellos que buscan acogida y un hogar en estos Estados Unidos.

Deseamos hacer realidad esta visión, alentadas y fortalecidas por nuestra fe y el compromiso de nuestros votos. Hacemos eco de los obispos católicos de los Estados Unidos, quienes escribieron en su mensaje pastoral dirigido a los inmigrantes: “Estamos con ustedes en su sufrimiento, ya que cuando un miembro sufre, todos sufren (1 Cor. 12:26). ¡No están solos!” (Mensaje Pastoral Especial de los Obispos de EE. UU. a los Inmigrantes, noviembre de 2025)

**A Prayer for the Easter Season: April 2 ~ May 24, 2026**

*As we celebrate the Divine Truth of Resurrection,  
let us pray for the courage of our Risen Savior and  
the First Followers to live our faith with conviction...*

**Prayer for Conscience and Courage**

*Loving God,  
lead us beyond ourselves  
to care and protect,  
to nourish and shape,  
to challenge and energize  
both the life and the world  
You have given us.  
God of light and God of darkness,  
God of conscience and God of courage  
lead us through this time  
of spiritual confusion  
and public uncertainty.  
Lead us beyond fear,  
apathy and defensiveness to new hope  
in You and to hearts full of faith.  
Give us the conscience it takes  
to comprehend what we're facing,  
to see what we're looking at  
and to say what we see  
so that others, hearing us,  
may also brave the pressure that comes  
with being out of public step.  
Give us the courage we need  
to confront those things  
that compromise our consciences  
or threaten our integrity.  
Give us, most of all,  
the courage to follow those before us  
who challenged wrong and changed it,  
whatever the cost to themselves.  
In Jesus' Name, we pray.*



**The Newest Members  
of Our Community**

*Belva Mary Billings  
Gregory Joseph Billings  
Israel James Moses Lynch  
Brittany Kursten Teresa Reece  
Francis Ritz*

*We are blessed in your presence among us!*



**Blessings!!**

**2026 First Communicants:**

May 10

Emiliano Mata Reyes  
Giovanny Mariano Mejia  
Andy Trinidad Villalon

May 17

Andy Carmona Hernandez  
Milan Carmona Hernandez  
Jusselly Mayo Arroyo  
Marlene Mayo Arroyo

May 24

America Lopez Segura

May 31

Luz Hernandez Reyes  
Sergio Hernandez Campechano  
Daniella Trejo Chavez

<b>Tri-C Almsgiving</b> <i>Thank you so much !!</i>		
<b>JAN</b> Canned tomatoes Spaghetti sauce	<b>MAR</b> Laundry detergent	<b>MAY</b> Toilet paper
<b>FEB</b> Corn meal	<b>APR</b> Canned fruit	<b>JUN</b> Tooth paste

**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...  
 & the violence in Mexico...



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



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

**WAYS to GIVE**



**Pledge:** Give over time until December 31, 2026  
**One-time Gift:** use the DSA envelopes and make a one-time gift.  
**Online Gift:** [charlottediocese.org/dsa](http://charlottediocese.org/dsa)  
**Stock Donation:** [charlottediocese.org/ways-to-give](http://charlottediocese.org/ways-to-give)  
**IRA Contribution:** [charlottediocese.org/ways-to-give](http://charlottediocese.org/ways-to-give)



*Kristen & Matt Brown  
 Hannah, Noah, & Lucas  
 Ashley & Bradley Parsons  
 Nevaeh & Brantley  
 Ana & Sergio Soloranzo  
 Sergio, Melissa & Ximena*

*You are invited to our Open Table  
 4:30-6:30pm  
 Third Thursdays ~ NO COST  
 FBC Elkin 110 Gwyn Avenue  
 (336) 835-1998 / [www.elkinfbc.com](http://www.elkinfbc.com)*

<b>Apr. 16</b>	<b>Jul.16</b>	<b>Oct. 15</b>
<b>May 21</b>	<b>Aug. 20</b>	<b>Nov. 19</b>
<b>Jun. 18</b>	<b>Sept. 17</b>	<b>Dec. 17</b>



<b>April Financial Stewardship</b>	
<b>Weekly Budget</b>	<b>Monthly</b>
\$3000.00	\$12,000.00
	\$11,809.00
	<b>- \$191.00</b>

<b>St. Stephen DSA</b>	
<b>Assessment</b>	\$10,959.00
<b>Paid</b>	\$2480.00
<b>Donors</b>	11
<b>Balance</b>	\$8479

*¡Buenos días, Iglesia!*

Al igual que la mayoría de la música que cantamos los domingos, la letra de «The Commission» —de la banda de hermanos cristianos CAIN— está extraída de la Sagrada Escritura.

*e y habla al mundo acerca de mí,  
Estuve muerto, pero ahora vivo  
Debo marcharme ahora, Por un breve tiempo  
Pero el adiós no es el final*

# Adiós

## Ascensión Bendición

Todos hemos experimentado los sentimientos agridulces que surgen al decir adiós. Jesús también experimentó la carga y el dolor de despedirse de sus amados discípulos. Sin embargo, Jesús sabe que su despedida es una parte momentánea de la relación eterna que comparten. Aunque estará visiblemente ausente, a través de su Santo Espíritu, permanecerá como una Presencia siempre presente.

Mi Espíritu está contigo, Dondequiera que vayas  
Tienes un propósito, Y yo tengo un plan

El plan y el propósito de Cristo nos han sido encomendados:  
Id y habladle al mundo de mí

Puede que no hayamos visto las manos y los pies del Cristo Resucitado; sin embargo, nuestra fe nos concede la gracia de creer lo que Jesús dijo a todos aquellos que le siguen fielmente:

Tengo fe en que haréis grandes cosas...

Este es nuestro propósito: vivir conforme a su promesa de que Él está siempre con nosotros y de que regresará algún día. Hasta entonces, estamos llamados a proclamar su Presencia mediante lo que decimos y hacemos. Fortalecidos por su Espíritu Santo, dondequiera que vayamos. «Bautizamos» a los demás con nuestra bondad, nuestro servicio generoso, nuestra presencia intencional y nuestra escucha profunda.

Existen muchísimas formas de dar testimonio de nuestra fe en Cristo y de vivir una vida con propósito en su Nombre. El poder de su presencia y de sus palabras es nuestra esperanza.

Su despedida no es el final; es el comienzo.

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*  
En el Uno, somos uno, en ComUNIDAD,



En la partida,  
en el soltar,  
que quede esto  
a lo que aferrarse  
al final:

la perdurabilidad del amor,  
la persistencia de la esperanza,  
el recuerdo de la alegría;

la ofrenda de gratitud,  
la recepción de la gracia,  
la bendición de la paz.

~ Jan Richardson

*Morning, Church!*

Like the majority of music we sing on Sundays, the lyrics of “The Commission” by the Christian sblings’ band, CAIN, is drawn from Sacred Scripture.

*Go tell the world about me  
I was dead, but now I live  
I’ve gotta go now  
For a little while  
But goodbye is not the end*

We’ve all experienced the bitter-sweet feelings felt in saying goodbye. Jesus, too, experienced the weightiness and heartache of saying goodbye to his beloved disciples. Yet, Jesus knows his goodbye is a momentary part of their eternal relationship. Although he will be visibly absent, through his Holy Spirit, he will be remain an ever-present Presence.

*My Spirit is with you  
Wherever you go  
You have a purpose  
And I have a plan*

Christ’s Plan and purpose have been commissioned to us:

*Go tell the world about me*

We may not have seen the Risen Christ’s hands and feet, yet our faith graces us to believe what Jesus said to all who faithfully follow him:

*I have faith that you will do great things...*

This is our purpose: to live into his promise that he is with us always and he will return again some day. Until then, we are called to proclaim his Presence by what we say and do. Strengthen by his Holy Spirit wherever we go. We “baptize” others with our kindness, generous service, intentional presence, and deep listening.

There are so many ways to give witness to our faith in Christ and to live a purposeful life in his Name. The power of his presence and words are our hope.

His goodbye is not the end, it’s the beginning.

***Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

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

*Janis*

GOODBYE

Ascension  
Blessing

In the leaving

in the letting go

let there be this

to hold onto

at the last:

the enduring of love

the persisting of hope














the remembering of joy

the offering of gratitude

the receiving of grace

the blessing of peace

~ Jan Richadson

M A Y	
03 	<i>5th Sun Easter</i> Faith Formation parents & children, after Mass SSJ ZOOM, 7-8:30p
05	Communion Service, 12:15p
06 	Nurses' Day OCIA, 7p; Choir, 7p 
07	Habitat for Humanity Awards Luncheon
10	<i>6th Sun Easter</i> <i>Happy Mother's Day</i>
11 	Ladies Guild, 5p
12	Communion Service, 12:15p 
13 	OCIA, 7p; Choir, 7p
16	Men's Breakfast, Cracker Barrel, 8:30a 
17	<i>Feast: Ascension</i>
18	Give Blood ~ Elkin Rescue Sq, 1:30-6:00p 
19	Communion Service, 12:15p Ministerial Association, 12N
20	OCIA, 7p; Choir, 7p 
21	Wise Ones , 1p Shiki's Host: Barbara DeJohn 
24	<i>Pentecost Sunday ~ Wear Red Sunday</i> 
26 	Communion Service, 12:15p OCIA, 2 , 6:30P
27 	OCIA, 7p; Choir, 7p 
31	<i>Feast: Holy Trinity Sunday</i>

🌿 Mass Intentions	
03	+Michael A. Garwood, Sr.
10	All Mothers, living & deceased; +Helen Purcell MacKenzie & McKinley Orta +Richard Bernabe
17	+Damian Whitsonant +Georgette & William Dyer
24	+Grace Jenkins

### Birthdays & Anniversaries



- |                            |                      |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 01 Emilio Lopez            | 20 Lizette Hernandez |
| Phillip Parrish            | 21 Luz Hernandez     |
| 02 Cecelia Martinez        | 23 Aymes Davis       |
| 04 Samantha Ange           | Morgan Orta          |
| Memo Lara                  | Jonny Ramirez        |
| Christian Ouellette        | 25 Ana Karen Carmona |
| 08 Matt Norman             | 27 Lila Keller       |
| 09 Francis Ritz            | 28 Diego Carreon     |
| 15 Ron Berryman            | 30 Alex Lara         |
| Luis Lopez                 | Brian Lopez          |
|                            | 31 Hilda Lopez       |
| 04 Rebekah & Ryan Treannie |                      |
| 28 Theresa & Phil Martin   |                      |

**If you're graduating from High School,  
college or graduate school,  
please call S. Janis  
Thank you!**



### IMPORTANT INVITATION

#### ALL ADULT & CONFIRMED YOUTH

St. Stephen needs your help in the service

of Liturgical Ministries:

Acolytes, Greeter/Ushers,

Eucharistic Ministers, Proclaimers/

Readers, Altar Linens

There is a Formation and Information

for each of these ministries.

Please consider helping your parish community.



*Sister St. Herman D'Uva, S.S.J.*

Given by God August 4, 1928

Given to God May 13, 2026

in her 80th year in community

# FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension of Christ. On this day, Jesus gathered his followers and gave them a *commission*.

A *Commission* is a special purpose, something to do and a special way to do it. Jesus' Commission to his followers:

Go tell everyone about me

Tell them I died and rose from the dead that they might have life forever with me.

He told his followers to return to Jerusalem and pray for the coming of his Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit would help them to remember all that Jesus said and did, so they could continue to serve in his name.

Although they were sad Jesus would leave them, they put their faith and trust in him. They believed in his promise to send the Holy Spirit to give them strength and courage to do what Jesus asked.

This is your purpose now: to let everyone know that Jesus is with us and that he cares so much for all of us. We have the help of the Holy Spirit. We have a special purpose:

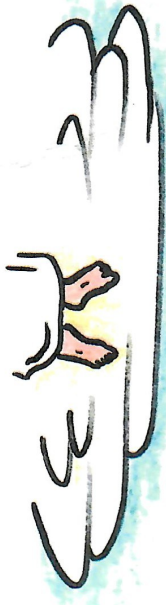
To live, love, and serve others in Jesus' name.

Answer to puzzle on front page: God mounts His throne to shouts of joy!  
Answers to True or False:  
1. True 2. False 3. False 4. True  
5. True 6. False 7. True

# The Kids' Bulletin

*Feast of the Ascension*  
May 14th or May 17th, 2026

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



What does today's Psalm say about the Ascension? Use every other letter from the box of letters above to fill in the blanks below.

G \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_!

# Saint Cristobal Magallanes

May 21

CRISTOBAL WAS BORN IN MEXICO IN 1915. HE ENTERED THE LOCAL SEMINARY AT THE AGE OF 19 AND WAS ORDAINED AT AGE 30.

*Congratulations on your ordination, Father!*



HE BECAME A PARISH PRIEST. HE STARTED MISSIONS AND SCHOOLS FOR TRADES.

*Make sure it's facing the right way...*



BUT SOON THE GOVERNMENT OUTLAWED THE CHURCH!



*if you see a priest arrest him immediately.*



*We'll start classes at 8 PM.*

WHEN THE SEMINARY WAS CLOSED, FATHER CRISTOBAL STARTED A SECRET ONE.

HE AND THE OTHER PRIESTS WORKED SECRETLY SO THEY WOULDN'T BE CAUGHT



BUT HE WAS ARRESTED ON HIS WAY TO SAY MASS ON A FARM.



*Hey! Stop right there!*

*I die innocent and I ask God that my blood may serve to unite my Mexican brethren!*



CRISTOBAL WAS KILLED FOUR DAYS LATER. BEFORE HE DIED HE FORGAVE THE MEN WHO WERE ABOUT TO KILL HIM.

SAINTE CRISTOBAL WORKED TO HELP HIS FELLOW MEXICANS TO LIVE A BETTER LIFE. WHEN THE GOVERNMENT TRIED TO STOP THE CHURCH, HE KEPT WORKING ANYWAY. WE CAN LEARN FROM HIM THAT HELPING PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY IN THEIR FAITH, IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN HAVING A NICE SAFE LIFE.

# True or False about... The Ascension

How well do you know the story of the Ascension?

See if you know which of these are true and which are false:

1. Jesus appeared to His disciples for forty days after He rose from the dead. True or false?
2. When Jesus was with His disciples after He rose from the dead, they could only see Him but they couldn't touch Him. True or false?
3. Jesus didn't tell His friends that He was going to leave them. True or false?
4. Jesus promised that He would send the Holy Spirit. True or false?
5. The disciples had gathered together and asked Jesus if He was going to restore the earthly kingdom. True or false?
6. Nobody saw Jesus rise into the sky and disappear into a cloud. True or false?
7. Two men appeared to the disciples and said, "Men of Galilee, why are you looking at the sky?" True or false?

