

ST. STEPHEN'S NEWS

Today Sunday, January 29, 2023

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

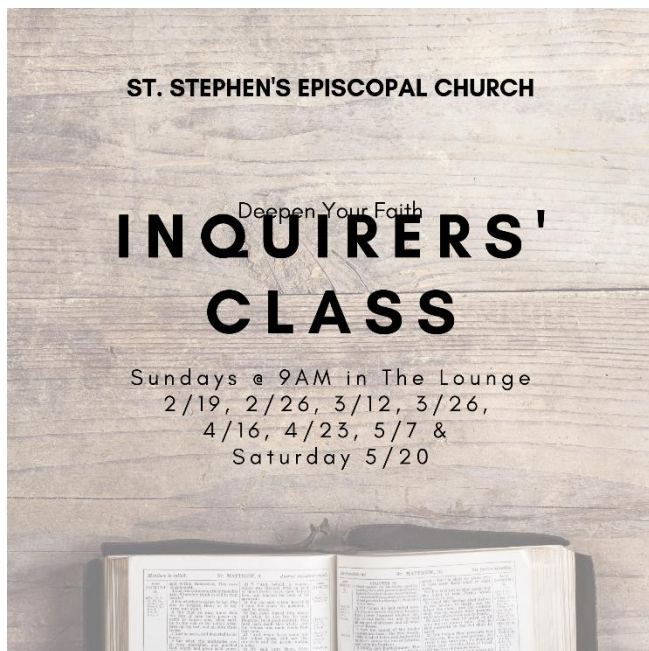
WELCOME!

If you are worshipping at St. Stephen's for the first time today, you are welcome to share in the Holy Communion. Please fill out a "Visitor" card at one of the Greeters tables and/or the guest book on the podium before you leave and get a welcome packet.

COMMUNION

If you are in need of a gluten free wafer during Communion, please let an usher know before the offertory or let one of the persons serving the host know. If you have a mobility problem, please let an usher know before the service begins and communion will be brought to you.

LOOKING FORWARD



As we prepare for our upcoming Episcopal Visitation from Bishop Taylor on Sunday, May 21, 2023, Rev. Christopher will be leading an 8-session class beginning on Sunday, February 19, 2023 at 9AM in The Lounge. Classes will continue every other Sunday through May 20 with two back to back sessions in the beginning and two back to back sessions in the middle. The last class will be on the Saturday before the Bishop's visit. The specific dates are: 2 / 1 9 , 2 / 2 6 , 3 / 1 2 , 3 / 2 6 , 4 / 1 6 , 4 / 2 3 , 5 / 7 & Saturday 5 / 2 0 . This is open to

anyone in the congregation who wishes to participate, including youth in 8th grade and up. It will serve as sort of an Episcopal Church 101 course for newcomers and will also be crafted to directly support those interested in Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation on May 21, 2023. To register:

<https://tinyurl.com/yh95rjpy>

Or sign up in person in the parish hall.



**Sat., February 4th,
9 – 11:00am
St. Stephen's Parking
Lot**

CRITICAL NEEDS – New Items only:

- **Youth Socks & Underwear – All Sizes**
- **Adult Sweatshirts – L, XL & XXL**
- **Adult Underwear – All sizes; men & women**
- **Women's Fem Pads (any size)**
- **Laundry Detergent (liquid & pods)**
- **Boxes of Dryer Sheets**

NEEDED FOOD ITEMS (Order of need):

- Cans of Soup, Beans & Pasta Sauce
- Cereal; Pasta & Rice
- Canned Meat & Tuna (pull top)
- Individual Fruit Cups (low or no sugar)
- Snacks - Single Protein Bars, Granola Bars, etc.

NEEDED OTHER ITEMS:

- **"Hotel" Size Soap, Shampoo, Conditioner**
- Men's & Women's deodorant
- Women's Shave Cream & razors
- Bar Soap, Shampoo & Conditioner

We routinely donate to the SCV Food Pantry, SCV Family Promise, and Bridge to Home, amongst several other charitable organizations in Santa Clarita!

Sat., Feb. 4 is also our recycling collection!

Please bring RECYCLABLE "CRV" glass, plastic, aluminum cans, & bottles.

Bring pull tabs from cans of soda & food.

Bring Coke bottle caps.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.



**Engaging Our Faith
Opening Our Hearts
Doing God's Work**



Welcome to a transition time in the Church year.

We celebrated Advent, anticipating the birth of our Savior.

Now we're coming off the emotional high of Christmas, celebrating the birth of Christ.

We're going to spend a few weeks basking in the light of the season of Epiphany.

A glorious time in the Church year, a time of rejoicing, a time of learning, service and stewardship!

It's the perfect time for our Annual Meeting; to meet together in community, to elect new members to our Vestry, talk about new ministries and, most importantly, to discuss the business of the parish. Plus share a meal!

It's also the perfect time to read, explore and gain a better understanding of your Baptismal vows. A time to spend listening to the direction your heart is communicating for your ministry; are you a leader, have an idea for a new ministry, do you feel a pull or desire to work with an existing group or are you seeking direction? St. Stephen's has many ministries, all of which welcome everyone. Do you like to read – Have you thought about reading part of the lectionary to our community during worship? Are you interested (or curious) about training to be a Chalice bearer or MC? Love to work with your hands – consider the Altar Guild! Desire to help others through prayer, join the Prayer Chain.

On the Stewardship bulletin board is a listing of Ministry leaders that would welcome your call or email.

Jesus sent His disciples out two by two into towns where they knew no one to spread His Word and Love. You can do the same, join or start a ministry. We are called to share the love and the witness of God's salvation, so abundantly offered, with our neighbors and our world as we walk our own path in the ancient teachings of our prophet and prince.

Let's get to work St. Stephen's!

St. Stephen's community, here's a question for you – How many parishioners does it take to help with worship service? Answer – All of you!

Make a joyous sound! Our dedicated choir members under the direction of Music Director Judy Baity, learn new songs, present beloved songs and strengthen their music skills. Practice is Thursday evenings and new voices are always welcome.



Each week a different set of Altar Guild members meet up, clean behind the altar rail and set up for services. On Sunday, they check before each service that everything is ready and then wash up after each service. Silver, brass, linen, porcelain...whatever, they do it all. And they train!

Do you talk "tech", no worries there's people to train you. Would you like to help bring our 10am service to people who aren't able to attend in-person service? Let us know, Tech Guild is an important ministry.

There are parishioners who read the Lectionary, serve the Chalice and set the table. What a way to honor God and serve the community! We will be holding training sessions in late February. We also have a dedicated group of youth that serve at the 10am service as crucifers/servers and acolytes. Truly amazing and uplifting to observe their commitment.



You meet a fabulous group every Sunday morning, our Greeters and Ushers! Always with a welcoming smile, bulletin in hand for you. They direct people to pews, pass the plate and bring the elements forward. Do you like to greet people and help them feel comfortable in our church home?

Need to have some coffee with your church? Thank you, Hospitality and Coffee Hour volunteers! They make it happen; coffee, tea, snacks and relaxing time to be social.

Listen to the voice of your heart, pray, ask questions, then consider joining, helping, serving whichever group you feel God directing you. You won't believe the rewards!

Questions – reach out to Cathy Gero, Steve Plote or Mary Mercogliano, or check the Ministry Leader list on the Stewardship bulletin board. We look forward to talking with you.

TARZANA TREATMENT CENTER
& PFLAG SCV PRESENT:

VALLEY STREET SMARTS

TUESDAYS FEB 7 - MAR 14
4:30- 5:30 PM

24901 ORCHARD VILLAGE ROAD

Free classes about substance use,
queer friendly sex education, and
how to make healthy life decisions

*FOR AGES 17-26

SIGN UP!

EARN UP TO \$30 IN GIFT CARDS!

St. Stephen's Prayer List

On-Going Needs: Joanne, Mary Lou

Current Needs: Susan, Byron, Wilson, Bree, Silvio, Liam and parents, Jake, Sister Miriam, Chrissy, Anthony, Uriel, Lucia, Ann Marie, Lucia, Cheryl, Kathy, Flo, Steve, Megan, Cis, Linda, Derek and family, James, Judy and Jim, Dorcas, Tracy and their families, Shari Vago, Pat, Gary, David and his family, Bob, Rob, Mary Lou, Hannah, Joy, Paul, Ty, Chris, Diane, Jonathan, Kathleen, Mark, Liam, Julie, Nicole, Leslie, **Katie, Judy, Suzanne, Grace, Pam, Barbara, Marilyn, Peggy, Mary, and Sepp.**

Rest in Peace: Meg Byrne, Jeff Fikejs, Myke Kanis, Peter Haigh, Felicia Bagley, Christina Johns, Kevin LaRoche, **Marjorie King**

If you would like to have prayers for yourself or someone else, please email Peggy Stabile at pstable@pegasus2.net or call the church office at 661.259.7307. Please be aware that your prayer request content will be shared with the members of the prayer chain. If you wish for Peggy to hold your prayer request in confidence, please clarify that in your submission. Prayer requests remain active for 4 weeks and must be renewed thru Peggy or the office to be on the list again.

St. Stephen's Week		January 29, 2023 to February 5, 2023	
TODAY'S SERVICES 9:00am			
SUNDAY 1/29			
9:00am		Holy Eucharist (also streamed via Facebook Live) - VPOD Jay Clark	
9:00am		Sunday School / Spurling Hall	
10:30am		Annual Meeting and Potluck	
MONDAY 1/30			
6:45pm		Troop 2019 / Spurling Hall	
TUESDAY 1/31			
5:30pm		Den meeting / Spurling Hall	
WED.2/1			
7:00am		Holy Eucharist	
9:30am		Circle of Gratitude via Zoom	
6:00pm		EfM / Room 8	
THURS. 2/2			
9:30am		Book Study / Sacristy & Zoom	
5:15pm		Den meeting / Spurling Hall	
6:30pm		Troop 2222 / Spurling Hall & Courtyard & Lounge	
7:30pm		Parish Choir rehearsal	
FRIDAY 2/3			
SAT. 2/4			
9:00-11:00am		Food Collection & Recycling Event / Parking Lot	
NEXT SUNDAY 2/5			
7:45am		Holy Eucharist	
10:00am		Holy Eucharist (also streamed via Facebook Live) - VPOD Kathleen Jensen	
10:00am		Sunday School / Spurling Hall	
11:30am		DOK / Lounge	
11:45am		YESS & Pathfinders / Youth Room	

Contact Us

Rev. Christopher Montella - Rector:

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Church Office: office@st-stephens.org

Melanie Long - Director of Children's Education & Formation:

director@st-stephens.org

Vestry: vestry@st-stephens.org