A LETTER FROM MR. NEAL SMITH, SEMINARIAN

To all in St. Stephen's parish, greetings! I hope you are all well and in good health of body and spirit. Though I am thousands of miles away in the West of Ireland, I often think fondly of St. Stephen's parish and all the people I knew there, and I keep you very much in my prayers. I am in year four of six in my seminary studies here in Ireland, and am currently on a "Pastoral Year," which does include an academic component but is focused primarily on spending time working in the parish of Castlebar, Co. Mayo. My time spent in St. Stephen's, and the way being a part of the parish community formed me, has served me very well in this work and I am very grateful for it. I had intended to visit this past summer as part of my time at home, but of course travel was interrupted so I did not get back to the States at all! This did permit me extra time living in a parish here in Ireland, which was helpful, and in spite of restrictions we of course continued with the work of God. If I am, at God's Will, ordained in several years time, I will certainly come back for a Mass of Thanksgiving, though I also hope to visit before then if travel conditions allow. While this year has been challenging, it has also been fruitful, and I hope this is the same for all of you. Please, as I know you do, keep me always in your prayers, and I will keep you in mine. When I am next able to travel to the Shrine of Our Lady of Knock. I will make a specific remembrance of you there. May our God and Lord Jesus Christ, the King who is to come, bless and keep you always. -Neal Smith

ANNUAL SEMINARIAN APPEAL

St. Stephen's has given three seminarians to the Archdiocese of Portland in the last two years, and two other seminarians to other dioceses, plus two young ladies to religious life since 2017. Though we are a small parish with limited financial resources, the Lord has blessed us with an abundance of vocations in these past few years. Let us consider what we can give back to the Lord, especially to assist in the expense of educating these men to become priests. It costs the Archdiocese of Portland up to \$50,000 annually for education and formation of each seminarian. Would you consider a gift of \$250 or \$500 to contribute towards the education of just one man? or triple that for the three men from St Stephen's currently studying for the Archdiocese of Portland? Please consider what you can render back to the Lord for all He has given to you. Envelopes are in the pews.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS AND RELIGIOUS

Br. Eric Faris, Coulter McIntyre, Erik Morris, Zach Munoz, Neal Smith, Sr. Lisa Hezmalhalch, Sr. Abigail Theresa Irigoyen

St. Stephen Catholic Church, Portland, Oregon Sunday, December 6th, 2020

This week's schedule:

Saturday, Dec 5th: Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday (4th Class)

- 7:00 am: Rorate Mass of the BVM in Advent (Sung Latin Mass)
- 8:30 am Sung Latin Lauds
- 9:00 11:00 am: Confessions
- 5 pm: Sung Latin Vespers
- 6 pm: English Mass (Ordinary Form-2nd Sunday of Advent)

Sunday, Dec 6th: 2nd Sunday of Advent (1st Class)

7:15 am Sung Latin Lauds

8:00 am Low Latin Mass

9:00 am Confessions

10:30 am Sung Latin Mass

4:00 pm: Rosary and Litany of the Saints for our Nation

5:00 pm Sung Latin Vespers

6:00 pm Low Latin Mass

Monday, Dec 7th: St. Ambrose, Bishop, Confessor, Doctor (3rd Class)

- 8:15 am: Sung Latin Lauds
- 9 am: Low Latin Mass

Tuesday, Dec 8th: Immaculate Conception (1st Class)

- 12 Noon: Low Latin Mass
- 5 pm: Sung Latin Vespers
- 7 pm: Sung Latin Mass

Wednesday, Dec 9th: Advent Feria (3rd Class)

- 8:15 am: Sung Latin Lauds
- 12 Noon: Low Latin Mass
- 5 pm: Sung Latin Vespers
- 5:30 6:30 pm: Confessions
- 6:45 pm: Low Latin Mass

Thursday, Dec 10th: Feria of Advent (3rd Class)

- 8:15 am: Sung Latin Lauds
- 5 pm: Sung Latin Vespers
- 5:30 6:30 pm: Confessions
- 6:45 pm: Low Latin Mass

Friday, Dec 11th: St. Damasus I, Pope and Confessor (3rd Class)

- 8:15 am: Sung Latin Lauds
- 11 am: Confessions
- 12 Noon: Low Latin Mass
- 5 pm: Sung Latin Vespers

Saturday, Dec 12th: Our Lady of Guadalupe (3rd Class)

- 7:00 am: Rorate Mass of the BVM in Advent (Sung Latin Mass)
- 8:30 am Sung Latin Lauds
- 9:00 11:00 am: Confessions
- 5 pm: Sung Latin Vespers
- 6 pm: English Mass (Ordinary Form-3rd Sunday of Advent)

Sunday, Dec 13th: 3rd Sunday of Advent ["Gaudete Sunday" (1st Class)]

7:15 am Sung Latin Lauds

8:00 am Low Latin Mass

9:00 am Confessions

10:30 am Sung Latin Mass

5:00 pm Sung Latin Vespers

6:00 pm Low Latin Mass

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Eric Andersen, pastor email: eandersen@archdpdx.org

Mr. Joseph Salazar, director of religious education

email: jsalazar@archdpdx.org

Sr. Anne Therese Nguyen, administrative assistant

email: saintstephenpdx.@gmail.com

Nicolai Bajanov, music director

email: <u>nbajanov@yahoo.com</u>

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MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday 12/6: Baby Delaney Claire and parents
 People of the Parish

Vocations to the Paligious Life

Vocations to the Religious Life

• Monday 12/7: Fr. Sam Conedera, S.J.

Tuesday 12/8: Konrad, Jessica, and Gabriella Von Walther
 Decade of the Period

People of the Parish

 Wed 12/9: Colette Koenig All Penitents

• Thursday 12/10: Urban Missionaries

• Friday 12/11: Baby Claire Delaney and parents

Saturday 12/12: + William Patrick Shaffer
 Doug and Maryhelen Davidson

Sunday 12/13: Albert and Sheila Chavez
 People of the Parish
 Bob and Monica Kelly

OFFERTORY COLLECTION (this week and month to date)

Envelopes/Cash: \$3,226.00 +/- budget

Online: \$3,337.00

Total WTD: \$6,563.00 Budget: \$4,800 + \$1,763.00

Total MTD: \$33,571.96 Budget: \$24,000.00 + \$9,571.96

Maintenance/Restoration: \$280.00 MTD: \$1,540.00

Online giving: https://www.saintstephenpdx.com/special-events



CCD CLASSES POSTPONED UNTIL THE NEW YEAR

Our Mass attendance numbers will be limited for at least four weeks in Multnomah county, so we will not be able to fit our CCD families into the Sunday morning Masses. As a result, beginning next Sunday, November 22nd, our CCD classes will be taking a break that will extend through Thanksgiving and Christmas. After the new year we hope to resume classes and try to accommodate our CCD families into Masses once again.

FROM THE DESK OF FR ERIC ANDERSEN

Holy League Men's Conference

It has been a great gift to be involved with the Men's Holy League in Oregon these last five years. Both Fr. Boyle and I had given talks at Holy League meetings down at St. Joseph's in Salem. We were impressed by what they were doing and we wished to heed the call of Cardinal Burke who called for men to form Holy League associations in their parishes. The purpose was to pray Holy Hours of Adoration; the Rosary; Confession, and fraternity for the protection of Christians and the Church against the many threats raging through the world. We began the Holy League here at St. Stephen's back in 2016 after many months of meeting with the men of the parish. The Holy League at St. Stephen's is under the patronage of St. Joseph.

For two years in a row, 2018 and 2019, we sponsored the Holy League Men's Conference here at St. Stephen's. Last year, we had about 500 in attendance at a Rorate Mass in Advent. It was a great event. It connected men from throughout the region to a strong masculine Catholic culture and practice of their faith.

This year I attended the Holy League Men's Conference in Salem and gave a talk on St. Joseph: Terror of Demons. It reminded me to turn to St. Joseph once again. Early in 2020, the parish sponsored a 40-Day Preparation for Consecration to St. Joseph and we concluded this with a parish consecration and individual consecrations on March 19th just after everything came crashing to a halt with the first CCP Virus shutdown.

I do believe that St. Joseph has been a great provider for those of us who consecrated ourselves to him. He has also provided for the parish. It is good to remember and to give thanks where it is due. We recently gave thanks to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal for opening our churches again to 25% capacity in time for Christmas. Let us give thanks to St. Joseph, but let us also ask him to intercede anew for us.

As a good father, he will love to give us something special this Christmastide. He represents God the Father as the head of the Holy Family. God the Father is pleased when we venerate St. Joseph in appreciation for God's gift of St. Joseph. Our Lord was obedient to him in Nazareth. Let us trust that if that was once the case, it is always the case.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

12/24 Vigil of The Nativity

4 pm. Latin Low Mass

6 pm. English Mass with music

12/25 The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

12 Midnight: Sung Latin Mass

9 am. Low Latin Mass 11 am. Sung Latin Mass

SUBSCRIBE TO THE PARISH YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Saint Stephen Catholic Church PDX. https://

www.youtube.com/channel/UCenluv9m Zo 8lvGRz 72A

Mother & Child Education Center (MCEC) offers hope, support, education and guidance to families during their parenting journey to help build a community of competent, confident parents. Established in Portland in 1971, MCEC offers a judgment-free space for anyone who is parenting including expectant women, single fathers, and families facing challenges such as lack of housing, poverty, fleeing domestic violence, refugee or immigration status, DHS involvement, substance abuse, or trauma.

MCEC provides prenatal & parenting classes, supplies such as diapers, clothing and food, and access to additional resources through community partners. We strive to empower clients to gain healthy parenting habits, to understand safe sleeping for infants; and to achieve personal goals such as self-sufficiency, a healthy environment for children, and a voice for advocating for themselves and their children.

DONATIONS: Our donation needs change frequently and we may not be able to accept all donations.

Donations by appointment. Please call (503)-249-5801 during business hours (M-Th 10-5, Fri 10-3) to schedule an appointment for donation

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. STEPHEN'S

RORATE MASSES OF THE BVM IN ADVENT

Rorate Masses are celebrated on Saturdays in Advent, early in the morning when it is still dark. The church is lit only by candlelight.

Saturday Dec 5th
 Saturday Dec 12th
 T am
 Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday
 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

FAST/ABSTINENCE DAYS IN ADVENT (not obligatory)

12/16 Ember WednesdayFasting & Partial Abstinence12/18 Ember FridayFasting and Full Abstinence12/19 Ember SaturdayFasting and Partial Abstinence12/24 Christmas EveFasting and Full Abstinence

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION (dispensed this year)

12/8 Tuesday. Immaculate Conception of the BVM12/25 Friday. The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

1/1 Friday. Octave Day of Christmas (Circumcision of the Lord)

"O ANTIPHONS" DECEMBER 17TH - 23RD

The "Greater Days of Advent". Each of these nights at 5 pm at Sung Vespers, the Magnificat Antiphon is a famous "O Antiphon". These antiphons inspired the hymn, O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

CHRISTMAS NOVENA TO THE CHRIST CHILD

December 16th - 24th. Take a copy of the Advent Family Devotions home to pray this novena. Daily video reflections will be filmed for our parish YouTube channel. **Saint Stephen Catholic Church PDX.** https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCenluv9m__Zo_8lvGRz_72A

THE FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN, PROTOMARTYR

Saturday, Dec 26th. 9 am Sung Latin Mass

BLESSING OF WINE ON THE FEAST OF ST. JOHN, APOSTLE

Bring a bottle of wine on Sunday, December 27th to be blessed in honor of the feast of St. John the Apostle.

NEW YEAR'S EVE VESPERS & PLENARY INDULGENCE

Thursday, Dec 31st. 5 pm Vespers with the singing of the Te Deum for a plenary indulgence.

MASS READINGS (Extraordinary Form)

Sunday: Rom. 15:4-13; Matt. 11:2-10 Monday: 2 Tim. 4:1-8; Matt. 5:13-19 Tuesday: Prov. 8:22-35; Luke 1:26-28 Wednesday: Rom. 15:4-13; Matt. 11:2-10 Thursday: Rom. 15:4-13; Matt. 11:2-10 Friday: 1 Pet. 5:1-4, 10-11; Matt. 16:13-19

Saturday: Ecclus. 24:23-31; Luke 1:39-47

Sunday: Phil. 4:4-7; John 1:19-28

LESSONS AT MATINS (Extraordinary Form) find online at

http://divinumofficium.com or as an app (Breviarium meum)

Sunday: Isaias 11:1-10; Homily of St. Gregory on Matt. 11:2-10

Monday: Isaias 13:1-11; Eulogy of St. Ambrose of Milan

Tuesday: Genesis 3:1-15; Sermon of St. Jerome; The Acts of Pius XII;

Homily of St. Germain on Luke 1:26-28

Wednesday: Isa. 16:1-8

Thursday: Isa. 19:1-6, 11-13

Friday: Isa. 24:1-16; Eulogy of St. Damasus I

Saturday: Isa. 25:1-12; Eulogy of Our Lady of Guadalupe **Sunday:** Isa. 26:1-14; Homily of St. Gregory on John 1:19-28

INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH?

Those interested in becoming Catholic or taking the steps to learn more about the Catholic Faith can contact Joseph Salazar to get started. jsalazar@archdpdx.org

SIGN UP TO ATTEND MASS (online or call parish office) https://www.saintstephenpdx.com/covid-19-update

CHECK OUT OUR PARISH WEBSITE https://www.saintstephenpdx.com