

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Lubbock,
Texas

Monthly Newsletter



March 2022

From Fr. J

St. Stephen's,

I can't thank you enough for the welcome you have given us. It has been warm and beautiful and deeply moving. You remind me why this thing we call "church" is so captivating.

We are a loving group at St. Stephen's.

I am looking forward to celebrating Lent and Easter with you. I hope that your Lenten journey is restful and discerning. This season is introspective.

Take stock, prepare, and find time to rest.

This is a great time to check in with yourself. The hens are already brooding on their eggs and the lilies are ready to break through to the surface.

It is a good season that we are in and I'm thankful to be here with you.

Yours,
Fr. Justin +

from the Sunday school director . . .

As we continue into the spring at St Stephen's, the Christian Education program is in full swing. We are happy to see some new faces in all of our classes. Our dedicated teachers are continuing to present God's word to the children in a fun-filled, educational setting.

We still need teachers at all grade levels !

If you are interested in this rewarding ministry please give me a call.

Thank you to all the members who have been so supportive of our program.

Nora Stubblefield (806-928-1083)
Elementary Christian Ed. Director

Just over the horizon . . .



April 10 Palm / Passion Sunday: Holy Week begins

April 14 Maundy Thursday, 7 PM: Holy Eucharist with Washing of Feet, Stripping the Altar

April 16 The Great Vigil of Easter, 7 PM: Renewal Baptismal Vows, First Eucharist of Easter

April 17 Easter Day: Regular schedule of Sunday Holy Eucharists

Annual Easter lunch at noon; children's egg hunt after the 10:30

Silent auction, final bids . . .

. . . are Sunday, March 2, for an autographed 'official' St. Stephen's baseball cap. Father Gibson has autographed 10 of the caps for the bidding.

Winners will be announced during coffee hour March 2nd. Proceeds from the auction will go to the rector's discretionary fund and the choir scholarship fund.



Journey coming up for Movie Theology

The Movie Theology Group will discuss the film *Out of Africa* at their next gathering Sunday, March 13, 5:30 PM, at 9205 Gardner. St. Stephen's parishioners and friends are welcome to attend the gathering. Bring a favorite beverage and a snack to share, and let Director Sydney Pollack's 1985 opus stir your wanderlust. View the film ahead of time and be prepared to discuss the movie.

New plans!

New rector!

New visions!

Exciting times are ahead!

In regard to 'visions', how about updating pictures in the parish directory! Parish Administrator Karen Bosscher is on hand most Sundays and camera-ready.

Your information in the directory may need updating also. Call or email the church office.

Frequently asked, "How do I access the online directory?" Instructions are posted on the board next to the bookkeeper's office.

Outreach Sundays assigned to disburse our alms

Loose monies in the offering plates each week now have a new designation according to the following 'Outreach Sundays' plan.

- * First Sunday: Open Door (current Outreach focus - see article, this issue);
- * Second Sunday: St. Benedict's Chapel;
- * Third (and 5th) Sunday: Rector's discretionary fund;
- * Fourth Sunday: St. Stephen's choir scholarship fund.

The vestry reviews periodically the loose plate distributions. The outline above is from their meeting last month.

Themes, Sundays in Lent

<i>First Sunday:</i> (March 6)	Luke 4: 1-13 Jesus is tempted in the wilderness.
<i>Second Sunday:</i> (March 13)	Luke 13:31-35 Jesus to some Pharisees, "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, . . . ! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!"
<i>Third Sunday:</i> (March 20)	Luke 13: 1-9 Jesus tells a parable of an unfruitful fig tree.
<i>Fourth Sunday:</i> (March 27)	Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32 The parable of the prodigal son and the loving father.
<i>Fifth Sunday:</i> (April 3)	John 12:1-8 A woman anoints Jesus' feet with expensive perfume.

This month's Birthdays

3rd Robert Lin	26th J. Frank Kiker
6th Cindy Streit	27th Mike Morgan
8th Townes Gibson	
10th Gabrielle Easton	29th Larry Stephenson
11th Richard Norton	Shelly Kemp
13th Kylie Edwards	Stephani Winddham
15th Mariel Morgan	
Orlo Sundre	
16th Ali Johnson	
18th John Gardner	
Mike Ehmer	
21st Jett Kiker	
24th Shely Adamson	
Vic Johnson	

and

Anniversaries

24th Doris and Gary
Pullen

March through Eastertide Outreach takes on a new focus

In place of a single month designation the next Outreach ministry will extend Lent through all of Eastertide: March through early June.

Open Door is the focus during this period. Formerly Carpenter's Church, the west-of-downtown ministry provides daily shelter with a variety of resources for anyone in need. Services offered include breakfasts, showers, life-skill classes, help with keeping vital records.

The parish will be collecting items to support Open Door's daily mission. Items needed include pancake mix and syrup; coffee, creamer, sugar; full sized items such as antiperspirant/deodorant, shampoo and conditioner, soap, feminine hygiene items, razors.

Money donations are also welcome. (Checks to St. Stephen's, memo Open Door.)

Mid-Lent brings the



annual Men of St. Stephen's fish fry



Bring palates ready and gills open March 27 following the 10:30 AM service in the parish hall! There'll be food a-plenty on this 4th Sunday in Lent known as Mid-Lent or *Laetare Sunday. MoSS will be well practiced in their culinary arts, having brought us through *Oktoberfest* in the fall and Shrove Tuesday on March 1st. There's no charge to attend, and donations are appreciated.

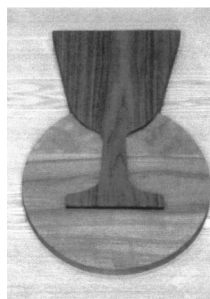
**Laetare* Sunday. 'Laetare' derives from the traditional entrance antiphon at the eucharist on the middle or fourth Sunday in Lent: "Laetare Jerusalem" — "Rejoice, O Jerusalem" (from Is. 66:10). It is day of a 'little rejoicing' in the midst of the austere season of Lent. It is sometimes called Mothering Sunday, when Christians visit their mother church (the church where they were baptized). Rose-colored vestment came to be worn on this day; hence, Rose Sunday. And the day is sometimes referenced, Refreshment Sunday.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Each Sunday: 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist streamed on Facebook		David of Wales 1 9:00 Morning Prayer (in the church)	Ash Wednesday 2 Chad of Lichfield (tr) 7:00 Morning Prayer with Imposition of Ashes (in the church) 7:00 Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes	John and Charles Wesley 3 9:00 Morning Prayer (in the church)	8:30 Morning Prayer (via ZOOM) 4	5
1 Lent 6 Holy Eucharists 8 AM and 10:30 AM 9:00 Adult class 9:15 Choir rehearsal 10:15 Sunday school Noon Coffee hour w/ Silent auction: St. Stephen caps!	Perpetua and her Companions 7 8:30 Morning Prayer (via ZOOM)	8 9:00 Morning Prayer (in the church)	Gregory of Nyssa 9 8:30 Morning Prayer (via ZOOM)	10 9:00 Morning Prayer (in the church)	11 8:30 Morning Prayer (via ZOOM)	Gregory the Great 12
2 Lent 13 Daylight-saving time begins Holy Eucharists 8 AM and 10:30 AM 9:00 Adult class 9:15 Choir rehearsal 10:15 Sunday school Noon Coffee hour 5:30 Movie Theology Group	14 8:30 Morning Prayer (via ZOOM)	15 9:00 Morning Prayer (in the church)	16 8:30 Morning Prayer (via ZOOM)	Patrick of Ireland 17 9:00 Morning Prayer (in the church) 5:30 Finance Committee	Cyril of Jerusalem 18 8:30 Morning Prayer (via ZOOM)	St. Joseph 19
3 Lent 20 Holy Eucharists 8 AM and 10:30 AM 9:00 Adult class 9:15 Choir rehearsal 10:15 Sunday school Noon Coffee hour ~~~ Newsletter deadline ~~~ (April issue)	Thomas Ken 21 8:30 Morning Prayer (via ZOOM)	James De Koven 22 9:00 Morning Prayer (in the church)	Gregory the Illuminator 23 8:30 Morning Prayer (via ZOOM)	Oscar Romero 24 9:00 Morning Prayer (in the church) 5:30 Vestry	Annunciation of our Lord 25 8:30 Morning Prayer (via ZOOM)	26
4 Lent 27 Holy Eucharists 8 AM and 10:30 AM 9:00 Adult class 9:15 Choir rehearsal 10:15 Sunday school Noon Annual fish fry	28 9:00 Morning Prayer (in the church)	John Keble 29 9:00 Morning Prayer (in the church)	30 9:00 Morning Prayer (in the church)	John Donne 31 9:00 Morning Prayer (in the church)	Church Office Hours Monday - Thursday 9 AM - 1 PM 799-3439 office@ststephens-lubbock.org www.ststephens-lubbock.org	

March roster will be sent later

St. Stephen's is called to be a community of support and encouragement where we discover who we are in Christ by extending faith, love, and hope to others.

Vestry: Karen Bosscher, Deke Carpenter,
Debbie Copeland, J. Frank Kiker,
Robert Leach, Sally Loden,
Liz Lonngren, Mike Morgan,
Jan Norton, Britt Pharris,
D.L. Wilson, Andrea Wolf



St. Stephen's celebrates **Holy Eucharists**
8 AM and 10:30 AM Sundays.

Morning Prayer is conducted
Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays
8:30 AM : Zoom.us.

Children's Sunday school is at 10:15 AM,
Adult class is 9 AM Sundays (courses as announced).
Church office hours: 9 AM - 1 PM, Monday - Thursday

Compline is read Wednesdays
8 PM, streamed on
Facebook.

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
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The Right Reverend J. Scott Mayer
Bishop of Northwest Texas
The Reverend Justin Gibson
Rector
The Reverend Paige McKay
Deacon
Debbie Copeland
Senior Warden
Liz Lonngren
Junior Warden