



St. John Baptiste de LaSalle Catholic Church

275 C.C. Wright School Road
North Wilkesboro NC 28659-9103
(336)838-5562
Email: Info@StJohnNC.org
Website: www.StJohnNC.org



St. Stephen Catholic Church

101 Hawthorne Road
Elkin NC 28521-3016
(336) 835-3007
Email: Connect@StStephenNC.org
Website: 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, sharing our time, talent, and treasures in life-giving ways.
To register and get more information: go to our website ~ www.StStephenNC.org

Sacrament Preparation (Baptism, 1st Communion, Reconciliation (Penance), or Matrimony)
Call S. Janis (336) 835-4542

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Offered for adults who desire to explore the Catholic Faith, spirituality, rites, and practices.

Sacrament of Anointing and Pastoral Care

If you or someone you know is desirous of God's healing and would like to receive the sacred anointing, contact S. Janis.

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

January 12, 2025

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Community Worship Service
Sunday, January 19, 2025 – 3:00 PM
All are invited and welcome!

**First Baptist Church
Elkin, North Carolina**



“Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream” Amos 5:24

This worship service is sponsored and led by *CommUNITY Connections*, a group of local clergy who are seeking to dismantle racism one relationship at a time.

You are cordially invited to a **FREE**

Fellowship Meal and Table Talk

**Tuesday, February 11, 2025
6:00 PM**

**New Beginnings United Methodist Church
311 West Main Street
Jonesville, North Carolina**



Sponsored by *New Beginnings UMC* and *CommUNITY Connections*

Amado de Dios

¡Buenos días, Iglesia!

Considerando el “amado” a los ojos de Dios. ¿Está consternado por lo incapaces que somos de ver y honrar el amor que hay en nosotros mismos y en nuestro querido prójimo? La regla de oro se ve empañada repetidamente por nuestro comportamiento humano. ¿Alguna vez te has preguntado por qué hay tanta dificultad en honrar el amor de Dios por nosotros... Gaza, Ucrania... el asesinato de Brian Thompson y el embestida del camión NOLA...

Hechos 10 nos da una idea de la visión de Dios sobre el amor a través del centurión Cornelio. Dios siempre elige a los improbables para enseñar a aquellos que se ven a sí mismos como superiores a los demás.

A través de una Anunciación, Cornelio recibe instrucciones de buscar al apóstol Pedro. Cornelio es improbable, un no creyente y un soldado romano. Eso es lo que se ve por fuera. Por dentro, Cornelio es una persona devota, temerosa de Dios y abierta a las enseñanzas de Cristo. El Espíritu Santo lo honra con el sentimiento de su amabilidad. Pedro también tiene una Anunciación que le ordena ir a la casa de Cornelio. Allí predica la Buena Nueva y toda la casa de Cornelio es bautizada después de escucharla.

A diferencia de nosotros, Dios no muestra parcialidad. Dios nos ama, a todos nosotros. Como el popular anuncio de televisión “Ama a tu prójimo”: “Nuestros vecinos son aquellos a quienes no notamos, valoramos ni damos la bienvenida... Jesús no enseñó el odio. Jesús lavó los pies”.

Me parece “lavar los pies”, servir a los demás sin distinción,
es una manera llena de fe de renovar el Bautismo cada día.

Si Jesús no mostró parcialidad entonces nosotros tampoco podemos hacerlo. La Palabra de hoy nos invita a bañarnos en nuestra amabilidad y honrar la amabilidad de nuestros Queridos Vecinos, de todos nuestros Vecinos. Seamos nosotros quienes notemos, valoremos y acojamos a los demás. Esa es la gracia visible del bautismo.



Hoy es un nuevo día, lleno de oportunidades para volver a intentarlo.

Lo que ayer quedó sin hacer se puede completar hoy. Podemos alejarnos de los pecados de negligencia y deshonestidad y avanzar en oración hacia la reconciliación. y respeto mutuo. Quitad la arrogancia y el odio que infectan nuestros corazones; derribar el muro que nos separan; únenos en lazos de amor; y trabajar a través de nuestra lucha y confusión para lograr tu propósito en la Tierra. La comprensión de que “estamos atrapados en una red ineludible de mutualidad, atados en un solo vestido de destino, lo que afecta a uno directamente, afecta a todos indirectamente”, nos obliga a preocuparnos por lo que le sucede a nuestro prójimo.

~ Oración de Confesión Libro de Oración Común, adaptado

En comUNIDAD,

Reflexionando sobre la Palabra

¿Los demás se sienten notados, valorados y bienvenidos por usted?

¿Por qué? ¿Por qué no?

Beloved of God

Morning, Church!

Consider “belovedness” in God’s eyes. Are you appalled by our inability to see and even honor the belovedness in ourselves and our Dear Neighbor? The Golden Rule is tarnished repeatedly by our human behavior. Do you ever wonder why there’s such difficulty with honoring God’s belovedness for us...Gaza, Ukraine...the murder of Brian Thompson and NOLA truck ramming...

The text from Acts 10 gives us insight into God’s view of belovedness through the centurion, Cornelius. God is always choosing the Unlikely Ones to teach those who see themselves as the Superior-to-Others.

Through an Annunciation, Cornelius is instructed to seek out the apostle, Peter. Cornelius is an Unlikely One, a nonbeliever, and a Roman soldier. That’s what is seen on the outside. On the inside, Cornelius is a devout, God-fearing person who is open to the teachings of Christ. The Holy Spirit graces him with a sense of his belovedness. Peter, too, has an Annunciation that instructs him to go to Cornelius’ home. There he preaches the Good News and Cornelius’ entire household is baptized after hearing.

Unlike us, God shows no partiality. God loves us, all of us. Like the popular “Love Your Neighbor” TV ad: *“Our neighbors are the ones we don’t notice, value or welcome...Jesus didn’t teach hate. Jesus washed feet.”*

Seems to me, “washing feet”, serving others without distinction,
is a faith-filled way of renewing one’s Baptism each day.

If Jesus showed no partiality then neither can we. Today’s Word invites us to bathe in our belovedness and honor the belovedness of our Dear Neighbors, *all* of our Neighbors. Let’s be the ones who *notice, value, and welcome* others. That’s Baptism’s visible grace.















Today is a new day, full of opportunities to try again. What was left undone yesterday can be completed today. We can turn from the sins of neglect and dishonesty, and prayerfully move towards reconciliation and mutual respect. Take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the wall that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purpose on Earth. The realization that “we are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny, whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly”, forces us to be concerned about what happens to our neighbor.

~ Prayer of Confession Book of Common Prayer, adapted

In CommUNITY,

Reflecting on the Word

Do others feel noticed, valued, and welcomed by you?
Why? Why not?

DECEMBER	
05	<i>Feast: The Epiphany</i> Mass: 9a 
07	Communion Service, 12:15p
08	Choir, 7p 
12	<i>Feast: The Baptism of the Lord</i> 2nd Sun OT Family Faith Formation, After Mass 
14	The Chosen, 10a Communion Service, 12:15p; RCIA I, 6:30p 
15	RCIA II, 6:30p; Choir, 7p 
16	Wise Ones, 1p Dodge City Host: Gayle 
18	Men's Breakfast, Cracker Barrel, 8:30a 
19	3rd Sun OT Family Faith Formation, After Mass   <i>Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i> <i>Community Worship Service</i> <i>First Baptist Church, Elkin 3:00p</i>
20	<i>Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i> Give Blood, Elkin Rescue Cntr., 1:30-6:00p 
21	The Chosen, 10a Communion Service, 12:15p RCIA I, 6:30p; Choir, 7p 
26	4th Sun OT Family Faith Formation, After Mass 

MASS INTENTIONS	
05	Fr. Bill "J.W." Hines
12	S. Joan Huggard, S.S.J.
19	Mary Askew

Birthdays & Anniversary



13	Luis Martinez	23	Lou Stackhouse
16	Jenny Ardizzola	24	Leonardo Mariano
	Barry Blackburn	25	Braulio Mata
	Epi Cortez	29	Marta Lopez
21	Ines Trejo	31	Dolores Spicer



- 01 Minnie & Julian Espino
02 Mary & Barry Blackburn

Pope Francis ~ Walking the Word

2025 Jubilee Year of Hope

*The Jubilee Year is a mandate to relieve the debts of the poor and commit to protecting the planet...
...to bring hope to the interminable, dreary days of prisoners...
...to the cold and dismal lodgings of the poor and all those places desecrated by war and violence...*

*What are your **new spiritual goals** for this New Year of Grace, 2025?*

¡MANY THANKS! ¡MUCHAS GRACIAS!

...to Hanh and Toan Nguyen who decorated and dismantled our outdoor Nativity...to our ladies who decorated and dismantled our Christmas environment, as well as cleaned our church...
...to our Sacristans, Judy & Frank, Samantha, Brylee & Shayla...for your faithful service, too...
...our very own St. Joseph, Bill Bresse, who quietly and faithfully collects and delivers our Tri-County donations each Sunday, as well as remaining a faithful volunteer there for decades...
...to all who volunteer for Meals to the Elderly ~
...another group of unsung heroes among us!!!
God's blessings on you and your families for all the ways you bless us and the Elkin Community!

S.O.S.: Cameras are gone, the needs remain!



Donate securely online:

www.ccdoc.org/helenerelief

Mail option:

Catholic Charities
Attn: Central Processing
1233 S. Church Street
Charlotte NC 282034003

MEMO: **Helene Relief Effort**



IF, by some **extraordinary** change from past winters, and we have icy /snowy conditions, you will be notified of St. Stephen closings on:
WXII Channel 11 or 1203
FOX Channel 10 or 1206

**RECYCLE
 USED INK CARTRIDGES
 at CHURCH!!
 RECYLCE CONTAINER IN THE LOBBY.
 Thank you!**



**ONE
 NATION**

Prayer After an Election

**UNDER
GOD**

God of all nations, Father of the human family,
 we give you thanks for the freedom we exercise
 and the many blessings of democracy we enjoy in the USA.

We ask for your protection and guidance
 for all who devote themselves to the common good, working for justice
 and peace at home and around the world.

We lift up all our duly elected leaders and public servants,
 the one who will serve us as president,

Legislators and judges, those in the military and law enforcement.

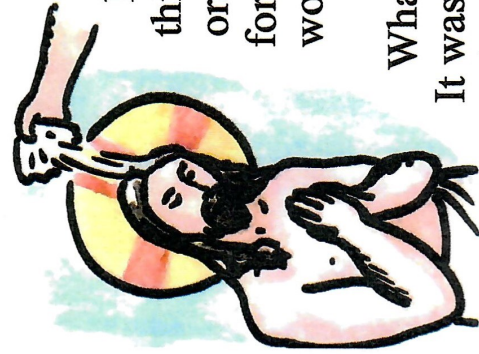
Heal us from our differences and unite us, O Lord, with a common purpose,
 dedication, and commitment to achieve liberty and justice
 in the years ahead for all people,
 and especially those who are most vulnerable in our midst.

U.S.C.C.B.



Tri-C Christian Crisis Ministries	
JAN	TBD
FEB	TBD
MAR	TBD

Jesus Begins His Mission



Today we celebrate the baptism of Jesus. After living with his mother for thirty years and working as an ordinary carpenter, it was time for Jesus to start His special work.

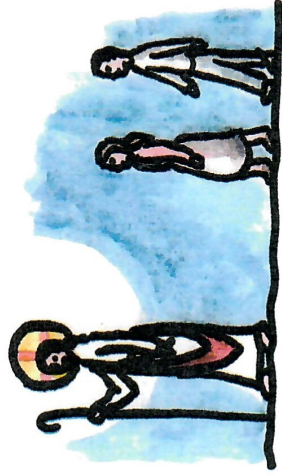
What was Jesus' special work?
It was showing people the way to God.

Your baptism celebrates your life in God.
Get ready for all the ways you can be loving, kind, forgiving, and helpful.

Your baptism gives you the strength to serve in Jesus' Name.

Ask your parents to tell you your baptism story.

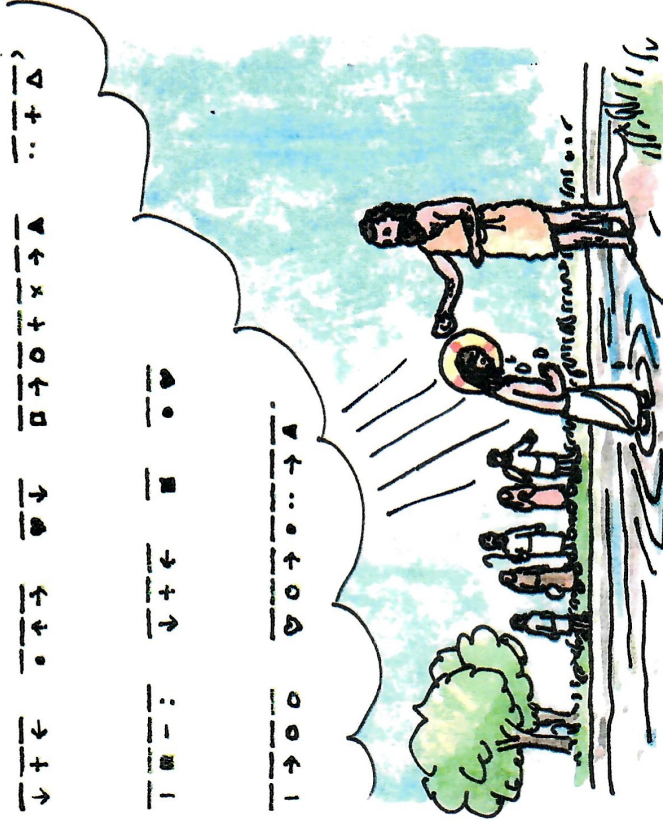
How can you help bring others closer to God?



Answer to front page: You are my beloved Son, with You I am well pleased.
Answers to Isaiah 42 Word Puzzle: servant, spirit, shouting, voice, break, smoldering, light, eyes, prisoners.

The Kids' Bulletin

The Baptism of the Lord
January 12, 2025



Luke 3.15-16, 21-22

*After Jesus was baptized, a voice came from the clouds and said something to Jesus. What did it say?
Use the code to find out!*

• □ ▲ ↗ : ■ ○ ♥ △ + ♡ † · · - ← × ! ↓
A B D E H I L M N O P R S T U V W Y

Saint Paul the First Hermit

January 15

SAINT PAUL THE HERMIT WAS BORN IN THE 200'S IN EGYPT. HIS PARENTS DIED WHEN HE WAS YOUNG. WHEN A PERSECUTION BEGAN, HE HID IN A NEIGHBOUR'S HOUSE.



Can you hide me from the soldiers?

BUT HE WAS AFRAID THAT HE WOULD BE FOUND, SO HE RAN AWAY TO THE DESERT.



THERE HE HID IN A CAVE, INTENDING TO RETURN HOME WHEN THE PERSECUTION WAS OVER. I wonder how long it will last...



HOWEVER, HE LOVED THE QUIET SO MUCH THAT HE DECIDED TO STAY IN THE DESERT!



SAINT PAUL GOT WATER FROM A SPRING AND FOOD AND FROM A TREE NEARBY. I could even make clothes from the leaves!



HE PRAYED AND LIVED A HOLY LIFE IN THE DESERT, BUT WAS TEMPTED TO THINK THAT HE WAS GREAT BECAUSE HE WAS THE FIRST HERMIT. Maybe I am the greatest hermit... NO! I must not be proud!



HOWEVER, HE SOON MET SAINT ANTHONY OF THE DESERT, WHOM HE REALIZED WAS HOLIER THAN HIMSELF. PAUL LIVED UNTIL HE WAS 113 YEARS OLD! How wonderful to meet you!

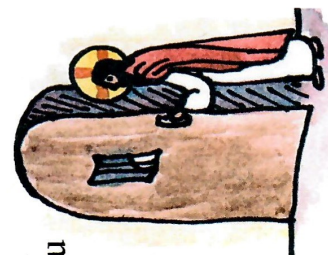
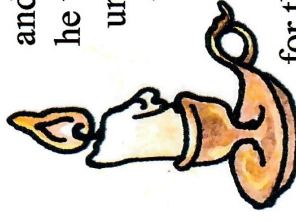


SAINT PAUL DIDN'T GROW UP THINKING THAT HE WOULD BECOME A HERMIT. BUT WHEN HE REALIZED THAT HE COULD BEST SERVE GOD BY LIVING BY HIMSELF AND PRAYING FOR PEOPLE, THAT'S WHAT HE DID. YOU CAN PRAY THAT GOD WILL SHOW YOU HOW YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SERVE HIM BEST!

Isaiah 42 Word Puzzle

Use the words at the bottom to fill in the blanks!

Here is my _____ whom I uphold,
 my chosen one with whom I am pleased,
 upon whom I have put my _____;
 he shall bring forth justice to the nations,
 not crying out, not _____,
 not making his _____ heard in the street.
 A bruised reed he shall not _____,
 and a _____ wick
 he will not quench,
 until he establishes justice on the earth;
 the coastlands will wait for his teaching.



I, the Lord, have called you
 for the victory of justice,
 I have grasped you by the hand;
 I formed you, and set you
 as a covenant of the people,
 a _____ for the nations,
 to open the _____ of the blind,
 to bring out _____
 from confinement,
 and from the dungeon,
 those who live in darkness.



PRISONERS VOICE EYES
 SMOLDERING SERVANT LIGHT
 SHOUTING SPIRIT BREAK