

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 6:30 a.m.

Weekday

1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63 / Lk 18:35-43

Jeffery Theriot fly. (L&D)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 6:30 a.m.

Weekday

2 Mc 6:18-31 / Lk 19:1-10

Msgr. Francis Amedee

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 6:30 a.m.

St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious

2 Mc 7:1, 20-31 / Lk 19:11-28

Ira Nini

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 6:30 a.m.

Weekday

1 Mc 2:15-29 / Lk 19:41-44

Ronald Ratcliff, Sr., Betty & James Rink, Jr.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 12:10 p.m.

Weekday

1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59 / Lk 19:45-48

Msgr. William Koninkx, AML

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Dn 7:13-14 / Rv 1:5-8 / Jn 18:33b-37

4:00 p.m. Donovan LeBlanc, Miles Liner fly. (L&D), Elaine M. Grant fly. (L&D), Calvin LeLeux fly. (L&D), Michelle LeBlanc, Marilyn Tidwell, Susanna Scarbrough

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

7:00 a.m. Calvin LeLeux fly. (L&D), Ray & Chaille Rasberry, Susan K. Aucoin

10:00 a.m. Lynette B. Meranta

6:30 p.m. Ronald Ratcliff, Sr.

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 Offertory \$5676.00
 Donation \$1000.00

Quelques paroles de Monsieur le Cure

The theme for the Synod of Bishops to be held in October 2023 is Towards a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission.

We are accustomed to differences of opinion on any subject. The differences of opinion can lead to lively and lengthy debates. One could take government as an example. There is an ongoing debate as to the role of government in society. This debate is crystalized during national or significant elections. Political parties select candidates that best represent the official views or platform of the party. The differences amongst the political parties on the role of government are vast. Candidates then have to explain, promote, and persuade voters that the interpretation of their party is optimum. Sometimes this includes a critique of the positions held by others. This does make organized debates very interesting at times.

This debate is essential for our well-being in this country because it identifies important issues, offers effective solutions, and makes the ideals of democracy tangible and practical.

That would be the theory, the practice is far from ideal. Clashes of viewpoints can and sometimes do paralyze the government. The well-being of some people, especially the poor and the vulnerable, can and sometimes are negatively impacted by some political positions.

It is not perfect, but it is the only way to democracy.

Our Lord did not leave a comprehensive manual for the Church. The Lord Jesus is the fullness of the revelation of God. The Church is the Body of Christ, of Which He is the Head. Since the First Century, the Church has been present in the world and has had an enormous impact on that world.

Guided by the Holy Spirit, the Church has developed a comprehensive theology and continues to explore this area so vital to life. She also has a code of law to create structures that promote certain values. There are different schools of thought in theology and church law. There are differences of opinion. This leads to a lively debate that is characteristic of the Church from Apostolic Times.

This debate has at times been very divisive. It has at times led to harm done to others. Efforts are sometimes made to stifle these debates, but that inevitably leads to an even greater disaster.

In promoting synodality, Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, having made reference to the Acts of the Apostles, offers this:

There was also the clash of differing visions and expectations. We need not be afraid when the same thing happens today. Would that we could argue like that! Arguments are a sign of docility and openness to the Spirit. (To the Faithful of the Diocese of Rome, 18 September 2021)

As long as all the participants in a conversation respect one another, arguments can be helpful when the truth becomes more obvious. The challenge is to never become disrespectful of the other because of the differences of opinion. Not all arguments, moreover, lend themselves to an easy and mutually agreed upon resolution. The pursuit of the truth is worth the effort.

Pope Francis also observes:

Today too, there can be a rigid way of looking at things, one that restricts God's makrothymia, his patient, profound, broad and farsighted way of seeing things. God sees into the distance; God is not in a hurry. (To the Faithful of the Diocese of Rome, 18 September 2021)

May we learn to adopt the perspective of God.

(Msgr.) Courville

New Announcements

Veterans Day: Please note the display in the vestibule from the children of St. Stephen's Early Learning Center in observance of Veterans Day, November 11. A special expression of gratitude is due to all in our community who served so nobly.

Repeat Announcements

Directives for Parishes: The following is an excerpt of the pertinent passages from the bishop's directives in response to the most recent protocols for the pandemic from the governor's office.

1. The wearing of masks in church is optional. Parents are to determine if their child is to wear a mask during catechism sessions.
2. Social distancing will continue to be available here at St. Stephen.
3. Ministers of Holy Communion are required to sanitize their hands prior to and are requested to wear masks during the distribution of Holy Communion.
4. The quarantine procedures of the Louisiana Department of Health are to be followed. Federal guidelines are to be observed.
5. Those with underlying health conditions, frailty due to advanced age, and those caring for the sick are not obliged to attend Mass. People who have covid-19 should not attend Mass.

Pray for the following priest each day: Eternal Father, we lift up to You these and all the priests of the world. Sanctify them. Heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness of Your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

- November 15, Very Rev. Louis Richard, VF
- November 16, Rev. Michael Richard
- November 17, Rev. Msgr. Robert Romero
- November 18, Rev. Mario Romero
- November 19, Rev. David Rozas
- November 20, Rev. Michael Russo
- November 21, Rev. Francois Sainte-Marie, MIC

DATE / TIME	READERS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
November 20, 4:00 p.m.	Janea Giroir	Brian Giroir
November 21, 7:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Peggy Acosta Laura Dozar Anne Theriot	Briant Dozar Brian Theriot