

October 26, 2008

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

# Sunday



How would *you* like to be treated? Do that to others.

Why did Jesus tell us to love our neighbors as ourselves? It's interesting that every major world religion, east or west, has a saying like this. How should we treat other people? Well, how would *you* like to be treated? Do that to others. There is stark simplicity here. There is something in the human heart that knows what to do. The trick is doing it.

The Book of Exodus gives some practical advice. Do you know what it's like to sleep without blankets? How could you put someone else through that? Even if he owed you the blanket, let him have it. What if the situation were switched? How would you react to someone who was this generous to you? Think about this as a lender working with someone who is needy, basically honest, and trustworthy. (Didn't you think so when you made the loan?) Who is more likely to feel gratitude toward you

and repay the debt than the person you treat with compassion? Where else might this relationship then go?

The toughest part of this advice is that we are meant to apply it to "aliens." How do we react to people we don't know? We can reflect on this in the same way. What is it like when *I'm* the outsider?

There is a deep foundation here in the realization that we know how we ought to be treated and how we ought to treat others. Each of us is made in the image of God. We are *connected* to others who are made in that image. The challenge is basic. Can I see the image of God in the other? We are told by Christ to look for it.

Why did Jesus tell us to love our neighbors as ourselves? Because we already know what to do.

DAN FINUCANE

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**Today's Readings**

Ex 22:20-26

1 Thes 1:5c-10

Mt 22:34-40

**Liguori**

PUBLICATIONS

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Liguori, MO 63057-9999

# St. Stephen Catholic Church

**Pastor: Rev. Fr. John Casey, SAC**

**Deacon: Carlos Frias (817-307-8332)**

Office – 1802 Bethel Road

Weatherford TX 76086

817-596-9585

Fax 817-613-0808

Office Hours – Monday through Friday

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Rectory – 1904 Bethel Road

817-596-9586

Web Page – [www.ss-cc.org](http://www.ss-cc.org)

Gift Shop – Saturday 5:30 to 6 PM

Sunday 9:45 to 11:00 AM

Noon to 12:30 PM

Club House—817-599-8423

Pro Shop—817-599-8431

Pastoral Assistant—

Sister Mildred Gordon, SHSp.

817-596-9587

Director of Religious Education –

Jeanette Houle-817-613-8008

[doschicas@att.net](mailto:doschicas@att.net)

Secretary – Dorothy Mendolia

Accountant – Ron Westendorf

Parish Interfaith Ecumenical Representative—

LaVerne Cardwell 817-594-3805

Choir Director – Dave Mees

817-596-5097

Parish Pastoral Council President—

Chuck Schabow 817-599-6644

## MASS SCHEDULE

*All Masses are held at the Church on Bethel Road unless otherwise noted*

**Saturday 6:00 PM ♦ Confessions Saturday 5:00 PM**

**Sunday 8:00 AM & 10:45 AM (English) ♦ 12:30 PM (Spanish)**

**Holy Days 7:00 AM & 7:00 PM**

**Daily Mass 8:45 AM**

## WELCOME NEW FAMILIES AND VISITORS

*Please complete a registration card at the Welcome Table in the church foyer and return it at your earliest convenience. Thank You!*

## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	October 25	6:00 PM	Irma Fuhrmann, RIP	<i>Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>
Sunday	October 26	8:00 AM	J. W. Wright, RIP	<i>30th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
		10:45 AM	Irma Fuhrmann, RIP	<i>30th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
		12:30 PM	La Comunidad	<i>30º Domingo Ordinario</i>
Monday	October 27	8:45 AM	Bob & Marlene Fronk	<i>Weekday</i>
Tuesday	October 28	8:45 AM	<b>Communion Service</b>	<i>Weekday</i>
Wednesday	October 29	11:00 AM	Maribelle Stewart, RIP	<i>Weekday</i>
Thursday	October 30	8:45 AM	Dennis Mees, RIP	<i>Weekday</i>
Friday	October 31	8:45 AM	Joe Bierschenk, RIP	<i>Weekday</i>
Saturday	November 1	6:00 PM	Faithful Departed	<i>Solemnity of All Saints</i>
Sunday	November 2	8:00 AM	Faithful Departed	<i>The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed</i>
		10:45 AM	Faithful Departed	<i>The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed</i>
		12:30 PM	Los Difuntos	<i>La Conmemoración de Todo el Fiel Marchado</i>

**Marriage** – six months notice required – please see Fr. Casey. **Aviso para el Matrimonio** – seis meses es necesaria  
**Baptism Instruction**—English (1st Thursday of each month); Spanish (1st Monday of each month)  
**Quinceañera** – three month notice required – girl must be attending CCD and Mass *regularly* – please see Fr. Casey  
**Prayer Chain Coordinators**—Ann Allen (817-594-8637) Bette Binzer (817-599-0454) LaVerne Cardwell (817-594-3805)  
**Weekly Visitation of the Sick & Shut-Ins.** Contact the church office to be on the schedule.  
**Census Information**—Please notify the church office if you are new to our Parish, have a change of address or phone number, or move to another Parish.  
**Bulletin Notices** are to be written or typed and in the office at least one week prior to event – notices may be e-mailed – deadline for bulletin is Noon on Tuesday – your cooperation is greatly appreciated – Thank You!

**REGULAR  
COLLECTION  
October 18-19  
\$9,660.44  
SECOND  
COLLECTION  
World Mission Sunday  
\$2,126.00**

*Flowers for the Altar this Weekend  
Are A Gift From  
John & Donna Sweeney  
In Honor of  
Bev & John Sweeney's 59th Anniversary*

**30th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
How do you en flesh the great commandment of love? Be aware of how others show this vital commandment. Encourage those who you respect to dedicate their lives to ministry of the Church.  
(Matthew 22:34-40)

**30º Domingo Ordinario**  
*Amarás a tu prójimo como a tí mismo.* Es un mundo inmenso, necesitado de personas generosa. Extiende tu mano hoy, mañana y por el resto de tu días (Mateo 22:34-40)

**NOVEMBER SECOND COLLECTIONS**  
November 1 & 2—Land Purchase  
November 22-23—Campaign for Human Development

**PROPERTY PURCHASE INFORMATION**  
Cost of New Property—\$1,631,842.00  
Monthly Interest Payment—\$9,700.00  
Total Contributions to Date—\$55,740.00  
Interest Paid to Date—40,129.00

**WELCOME TO ALL, INCLUDING VISITORS AND  
NEW PARISHIONERS.**

Breakfast today between the Masses is sponsored by our Extended Mission Group. Our Mission Project this year is the Chapel. All our efforts and mission funds are going into restoring the Chapel. Join us for homemade sausage biscuits after Mass today in the Parish Hall.



*We urge all parishioners to be informed on key issues and to vote. So we pray: Lord help us understand the issues we face in our world today and how the Gospel helps us respond as faithful citizens in our community. Free us from blindness so that we see others as brothers and sisters, and discernment to choose leaders who are guided by your love.*



**“HELP WANTED”**

Couples on Friday afternoon, 1-4 PM  
for Parker County Jail Ministry.

**Wages:** Countless Blessings

and a good deposit in your Heavenly account.

**Contact:** Paul or Barb Claffey at 817-220-2681.

**BLOOD DRIVE.** Thanks to everyone who came to donate. Carter Blood Care credited our account with 38 pints. All donors who give four times at any location during 2008 will receive a long sleeve t-shirt for being a "Four Seasons Donor." CBC has the names in the computer. More information will follow when available. There is still time to donate at CVS each Friday and Saturday. Be sure to tell them to credit St. Stephen. Thank you again for your generosity and love.

**COLLECCION DE SANGRE** - Gracias a todos los contribuyentes. Carter Blood Center acredito 38 pintas a nuestra cuenta. Todos los que donen 4 veces en 2008, en cualquier lugar, recibirán una camiseta manga larga por ser un DONANTE DE 4 ESTACIONES. CBC mantiene un registro de los donantes. Aun puede donar todos los viernes y sabados en CVS. Recuerde advertirles que acrediten la cuenta de St. Stephen. Gracias nuevamente por su gran caridad.

**BIBLE STUDY.** Elaine Hall Barclay and Cristina Guelda will continue the Bible Study in **Room 3 at 9:15 AM** each Sundays. *Newcomers are encouraged to join.*

**TIME, TALENT & TREASURE.** English sessions to be held in a two-part series, **Sunday, October 26 and Sunday, November 2, 12 Noon—3 PM.** **RSVP required.** Contact Jeanette Houle at 817-613-8008 or doschicas@att.net.

**TIEMPO, TALENTO Y TESORO.** Sesiones en Espanol se llevarán a cabo el **Sabado, Octubre 25, de 7:00 AM a 2:00 PM.** RSVP al Diacono Carlos Frias 817-307-8332.

**60+ GROUP.** Please join us on **Wednesday, October 29,** after the **11 AM Mass,** for a covered dish luncheon in the Parish Hall. For information call the church office at 817-596-9585.

**NEW PARISHIONER POT LUCK.** Mark your calendars for **Saturday, November 8, 3 PM.** Everyone is invited. Please come out and get to know the newest members of our parish family! For more information contact Jeanette Houle at 817-613-8008 or doschicas@att.net *See you Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup>!!*

**“Daylight Saving Time Ends”  
Set Your Clocks Back One Hour  
2 AM Sunday, November 2**

**AROUND THE DIOCESE**

**Presidential Election Patriotic Rosary.** St. Patrick’s Cathedral will host a Patriotic Rosary and prayers for Our Country during this time of national elections and lack of peace in the world. As our nation continues to search for new leadership, we must pray for the election of a morally good president and government leaders who will act according to the revealed will of God and the foundational principles of the Declaration of Independent and the Constitution of the United States. The Patriotic Rosary is in the framework of traditional prayers, accompanied by spiritual reflections of America’s forefathers. **The prayer service will be at St. Patrick’s Cathedral, 1206 Throckmorton on Tuesday, October 28, 7-8 PM.** As our beloved Pope John Paul II reminded us *“Peace is first of all a gift from God and therefore it must always be implored from Divine Mercy, with ceaseless and confident universal and unanimous prayer.”* (Jan. 1, 1982) For information call the Ft. Worth Queen of Peace Center: (817) 244-7733 or (817) 558-9805.

**Rachel’s Vineyard Retreat.** Rachel Ministries is offering a weekend retreat for healing after abortion on **November 21-23.** For more information, please call 817-923-4757. Confidentiality is strictly observed.



**TEEN CORNER**

**Youth Group: Halloween party, October 29.** There will be a costume judging contest—start planning your costume now! **November 5** meeting will be at Mr. Andy Allen’s Prayer Garden. Transportation on your own—maps, directions, and permission forms will be handed out at Youth Group Meeting. *Watch your mail for our very first Youth Group Newsletter!*

All youth ages 13 and above are invited to participate in the **Youth Music Ministry.** Join us **Sundays at 6 PM.**

**WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS**  
(All activities held at Bethel Road)

**Sunday, October 26**

- 9:15 AM Religious Education Classes (English)
- 9:15 AM Adult Catechism (Room 19)
- 9:15 AM Adult Bible Study (Room 3)
- 11:15 AM Religious Education Classes (Spanish)

**Monday, October 27**

- 6:30 PM Young Adult Bible Study
- 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop #72
- 7:00 PM RCIA
- 7:00 PM Citizenship Classes

**Tuesday, October 28**

- 9:30 AM Ladies Bible Study (Rm. 1 & 2)

**Wednesday, October 29**

- 6:00 PM Youth Group
- 6:30 PM Choir Practice
- 6:45 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet

**Thursday, October 30**

- 10:00 AM Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- 10:00 AM Quilting Group (Pro Shop)
- 7:00 PM Grupo de Oracion

**Saturday, November 1-All Saints (not a Holy Day of Obligation)**

- 7:00 PM Cursillistas Ultreya—**Bilingual** (Rm. 1 & 2)

# Dear Padre

## Why are there two Christmas stories?



I just found out there are two versions of the Christmas story in the Bible. How can that be?

Curious

Dear Curious,

There are two Christmas stories in the Gospels: one is in Matthew and the other in Luke. They differ on some details but at their hearts, the teaching is the same. Both tell us Mary is a virgin engaged to Joseph but not yet living with him, and both tell us Jesus is conceived through the power of the Holy Spirit. Both have Jesus born in Bethlehem.

In Matthew, the angel announces the birth of Jesus to Joseph; in Luke, the announcement is made to Mary. Jesus is named by Joseph in Matthew and by Mary in Luke.

The biggest difference involves the Christmas visitors. Matthew's Magi were educated Gentiles from a pa-

gan country. They worshiped Jesus and brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, showing us at the start of the Gospel that Jesus is King, Priest, and Savior. Luke is always partial to the poor, so he has shepherds rather than Magi witness to Christ.

The Christmas stories are different because the authors and their audiences were different. But there's no need to get lost in the details. Read both accounts, and allow God's grace to deepen your faith.

John Murray, C.Ss.R.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>October 27</b>	<b>October 28</b>	<b>October 29</b>	<b>October 30</b>	<b>October 31</b>	<b>November 1</b>	<b>November 2</b>
Weekday	Saint Simon and Saint Jude, apostles	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	All Saints	All Souls
Eph 4:32—5:8 Lk 13:10—17	Eph 2:19—22 Lk 6:12—16	Eph 6:1—9 Lk 13:22—30	Eph 6:10—20 Lk 13:31—35	Phil 1:1—11 Lk 14:1—6	Rv 7:2—4, 9—14 1 Jn 3:1—3 Mt 5:1—12a	Wis 3:1—9 Rom 5:5—11 or 6:3—9 Jn 6:37—40

SHUTTERSTOCK

