

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

April 9, 2017

Calendar

Saturday, April 8th

Holy Week

4:00pm Vigil Vincent Boudreaux Sr, Vincent Boudreaux Jr, Sister Josephine Cusimano DC, Adeline Glynn, Richard Harper, Joy Nalty Hodges, and the Intentions of Albert Brown

Sunday, April 9th

8:00am Mass All parishioners

10:30am Mass Paul Haygood, Lester & Ethel Heidingsfelder, Earl LeCorgne, Joy Nalty Hodges, Maria Cida Lancaster, Ronald & Pauline Marchessault, Elenor Mauser, Deacon Paul A. Nalty, Miriam Ogden, the Cassard Family, the Derbes Family, the Mercante & Youngblood Families, and the Vaughn Family

Monday, April 10th

6:30am Mass Wes Hogan

Tuesday, April 11th

6:30am Mass The Boudreaux & Bergeron Families

10:30am "Lord, Teach Me to Pray" (@ St Henry's)

4:45pm Eucharistic Adoration

6:00pm Mass William Allen

Wednesday, April 12th

6:30am Mass Mary Tortorich

6:00pm Rosary (@ Our Lady of Good Counsel)

Thursday, April 13th

Holy Thursday

6:30am Mass Cancelled

7:00am Eucharistic Adoration is cancelled

9:30am "Lord, Teach Me to Pray" (St Stephen Rectory)

Easter Triduum

7:00pm Mary Wendt (Mass of the Lord's Supper)

Friday, April 14th

Good Friday

6:30am Mass Cancelled

3:00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Saturday, April 15th

Holy Saturday

10:00am Rosary (@ Church of St Henry)



The Sanctuary Light in the church will burn this week for the repose of the soul of Vetter Amadeo Taylor.

The Sanctuary Light in the chapel will burn this week for the Intentions of the Pope.



Mass Setting

The Mass setting for the Season of Lent is the Gregorian *Missa jubilate Deo*, found on the Pew Card.



Banns of Matrimony

Paige Johnson & William Kery



Abby Ruiz & Mark Caponegro

Lay-Ministers Schedule for April 16th

8:00 pm

Lector: TBA.

Eucharistic Ministers: TBA.

8:00 am

Lector: TBA.

Eucharistic Ministers: TBA.

10:30 am

Lector: TBA.

Eucharistic Ministers: TBA.



Sharing Our Faith, Securing Our Future
Restoration of St Stephen Church

Here we go! Many of you will have heard that the Archdiocesan Finance Council has given permission for us to commence restoration work. Trapolin-Peer Architects and Donahue Favret Contractors are preparing the documentation for the necessary city and state permits now and expect that work will begin early to mid-May.

The work on the exterior (roofing and mortar/masonry repairs and water proofing) will be the first steps, followed by interior repairs and upgrades. Everyone is excited to see this long planned project finally begin!

All liturgies in St Stephen Church will continue as currently scheduled in the initial phase, while the focus of work is the exterior of the building. We will keep you posted as to progress and will try as much as possible to let you know ahead of time when to expect temporary changes.

We are still in need of pledges and donations to completely fund the project. If you have already set up a pledge, please begin pledge payments as soon possible as every dollar that we have for the project will reduce our overall interest on the bridge loan that the Archdiocese will provide. If you need assistance setting up regular or one-time donations, please contact Dianne Caverly in the rectory office.

Collection Report	March 26th	July 1st-Mar 26th
Total Collections	\$5,609.00	\$278,888.48
Budget	<u>\$6,684.69</u>	<u>\$260,702.91</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$1,075.69)	\$18,185.57
Second Collections/Miscellaneous Donations		
Restoration Fund		\$4,959.36
Clarion Herald		\$26.00
Catholic Relief Services		\$1,535.00

The Monthly Prayer-Request for Priests

April

1 st	The Rev. Luke Hungdung Nguyen*
2 nd	The Rev. Bartholomew Chukwuma*
3 rd	The Rev. Jongkwon Choi
4 th	The Rev. Martin J. Gleeson, OP
5 th	The Rev. Mbotela Kasele, FMH
6 th	The Rev. Francis X. Pitorius, SJ*
7 th	The Rev. Augustine Appiah*
8 th	The Rev. Kyle J. Sanders*
9 th	His Holiness Pope Francis
10 th	The Rev. Laudy Merilan, OMI
11 th	The Rev. Earl Muller, SJ
12 th	The Rev. Anthony Hien Nguyen
13 th	The Rev. Joseph de Water*
14 th	The Rev. Mark Lomax*
15 th	The Rev. Stephen Smith
16 th	The Rev. Lich Nguyen*
17 th	The Rev. Louis A. Poché, SJ*
18 th	The Rev. Msgr. Arthur Calkins*
19 th	The Rev. Msgr. Frank J. Giroir*
20 th	The Rev. Edward J. Lauden*
21 st	The Rev. Msgr. James R. Dixon*
22 nd	The Rev. Minh Cong Phan*
23 rd	The Rev. Chris Zavackis
24 th	The Rev. Michael Nam Hoang Nguyen
25 th	The Rev. Gregory Usselman, LC
26 th	His Holiness Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI
27 th	Seminarian Thien Nguyen
28 th	The Rev. Gregory Ross, OCD
29 th	The Rev. Msgr. Henry J. Bugler, VF
30 th	The Rev. Sam Anthony Morello, OCD

* birthday

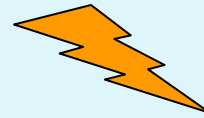
† deceased

Courtesy of The APRP Apostolate



Lightning Apologetics

by Phillip Bellini, DRE



Are We Saved by Faith Alone?—The Scriptural and Historical Perspectives

The biggest problem with the doctrine of Sola Fide from this perspective is that nowhere in the Bible does it say that a person is saved, or justified, by faith alone. Nowhere! That passage simply does not exist. In fact, there is only one place in the Bible where the phrase “faith alone” appears, and that verse (James 2:24) says, “We are justified by works and NOT by faith alone” (emphasis added). The Bible does, however, very clearly support the Catholic Church’s teaching that it is both faith and works that play a role in our salvation, as we shall see.

Love has everything to do with it. Does love have any role in our salvations? Yes or no? Well, if love plays a role in our salvation then quite obviously, we cannot say that we are saved by faith alone; we would have to say that we are saved by faith and love. However, if we are indeed saved by faith, and faith alone, then the answer has to be, “No, love plays no role in our salvation.” But that alone doesn’t make any sense, either from a logical perspective or from a scriptural perspective. Logically, one has to ask: Can we get to Heaven even if we don’t love God or love our fellow man? Well, if it’s salvation by faith alone, then the answer to that question is, “Yes, we can get to Heaven even if we don’t love God or our fellow man...as long as we have faith.” Does that make any sense whatsoever? No!

Scripturally, in 1 Corinthians 13:13, for instance, we are told, “So faith, hope and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.” But, if salvation is the greatest thing a human being can reach – which it is – and if salvation can be reached only through faith alone, then why isn’t faith greater than love? 1 Corinthians 13:13 makes no sense, at least, in Sola Fide theology. Furthermore, in Galatians 5:6, we are told, “For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is of any avail, but faith working through love.” Faith and love are both important for one’s salvation, at least, according to the Bible.

In James 1:12 and 2:5, Scripture says that God has promised the “crown of life” and “the Kingdom,” respectively, to “those who love Him.” Obviously, then, the opposite is true: those who do not love God do not receive the “crown of life” and do not inherit “the Kingdom.” In other words, they are not saved. According to 1 John 3:14, “He who does not love remains in death.” If one remains in death – and St John is speaking of spiritual death here – then one is not saved. Which means that this passage, as well as the others just mentioned, all point to the fact love is necessary for salvation. What’s love got to do with it? (Tina Turner song) Everything! Without love, there is no salvation. Salvation by Faith alone?

We know that faith is necessary for salvation, for “without faith it is God” (Heb.11:6), but what about works – do works play a role in our says they do not. Yet, as we have just seen, love is necessary for sal-manifest itself? Through works. We see this, for example, in the Those who did something – fed the hungry, clothed the naked, and so those who did nothing, suffered eternal damnation for NOT doing is why we have passages such as Romans 2:6-7, “For [God] will ren-works: to those who by patience in well-doing [good works] seek for will give eternal life.” Eternal life is given to those who do good says. But, is it given to those who do good works but don’t have faith? Is it given to those who do good works out of selfish motives? No. salvation. The doctrine of Sola Fide fails the test of Scripture.



impossible to please salvation? The Sola Fide believer vation. How, though, does love judgment passage from Matthew 25. on – inherited the Kingdom, while good works! (emphasis added.) This der to every man according to his glory and honor and immortality, He works! At least, that’s what the Bible No. Faith is necessary for salvation. The Bible says love is necessary for

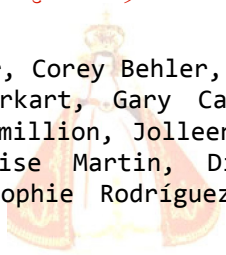
The Historical Perspective

Blessed John Henry Newman (*pictured*) once said, “To be steeped in history is to cease to be Protestant. And this utter incongruity between Protestantism and historical Christianity is a plain fact, whether [Christianity] be considered in its earlier or in its later centuries.” In other words, the doctrine of Sola Fide, and all the other distinctively Protestant doctrines, are nowhere to be found in the writings of the early Christians. Nowhere is the doctrine found in the records of Church councils. Nowhere is it found in historical Christianity before the 1500’s. Think about this: The Catholic Church has battled against the followers of many and varied doctrines that it considered heresies throughout history: the Gnostics, Ebionites, Montanists, Arians, Donatists, Marcionites, Pelagians, Albigensians, and a whole host of others. The errors believed and taught by these people, and how these errors were refuted by the Christian apologists of the times, are detailed in the writings of Christians throughout the centuries of the Church and in the records of the Church Councils. The first time, though, that we see the Catholic Church responding to the doctrine of Sola Fide is in the 1500’s.

This has to lead one to ask why Christian writers of the early and middle centuries of Christianity do not mention the supposedly fundamental doctrine of salvation by “faith alone.” It is the fundamental teaching of Christianity, why is there no mention of it for the first 1500 years? It wasn’t mentioned because it did not exist. What history is telling us is that the doctrine of Sola Fide is only about 500 years old. Christianity, however, is almost 2000 years old. The doctrine of Sola Fide fails the test of history. God bless.

Pray for the Sick

Ron Behler, Corey Behler, William Brown, Ray & Zetta Burkart, Gary Callahan, Jeanne García, Mary Gremillion, Jolleen Jackson, Leddie Lopez, Louise Martin, Dilia Martínez, Dilia Miller, Sophie Rodríguez, and William Youngblood.



Our schedule for the Easter Triduum is as follows: On Thursday of the Lord's Supper (April 13th), we will have the Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 pm. On the Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday), we will have the Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3:00 pm. The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night (April 15th) will commence at 8:00 pm. On Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord, we will offer Mass at 8:00 am and 10:30 am.

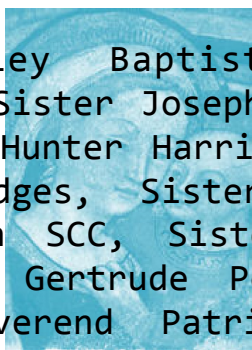
The three churches of our parish, St Stephen Church, the Church of Our Lady of Good Counsel, and the Church of St Henry, will open on Good Friday for the traditional Nine-Church Walk (or Pilgrimage), *La course du St Louis*. St Stephen's will be open from 7:00 am until the liturgy at 3:00 pm; Good Counsel and St Henry's will be open from 7:00 am until 1:00 pm.

We would like to welcome our new Office Manager, Paige Saleun, who assumed the position on March 13th. We are very happy to have her join the staff!

We will host a Retirement Party for our outgoing Office Manager, Dixie Williams, on Sunday, April 23rd (Sunday of Divine Mercy), following the 10:30 am Mass, in the rectory. Please join us in saluting a most devoted employee, who has so often gone well beyond the call of duty!

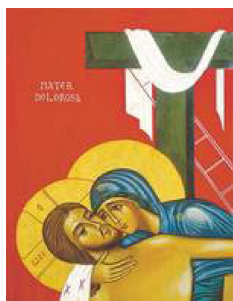
Pray for the Dead

Shelley Baptiste, Rose Chisesi, Sister Josephine Cusimano DC, Hunter Harris Jr, Joy Nalty Hodges, Sister Suzanne Kullowitch SCC, Sister Claire Mulé DC, Gertrude Petit, the Right Reverend Patrick Regan OSB, and Mary Tortorich.



Pray for Our Armed-services

Lt Junior Grade, USN, Neil P. Chatelain; LT John Tortorich; and LT Kate Tortorich.



News

The Extraordinary Form of the Mass of the Roman Rite, the "Tridentine" (Latin) Mass, will be offered again at St Stephen Church on Sunday, April 30th (**Second Sunday after Easter**), at 12:30 pm. The Mass Intention will be for the repose of the soul of Miss Mary Tortorich.

