

November 21, 2010

# Our Lord Jesus Christ the King

**Today we celebrate Our Lord Jesus Christ the King.**

He doesn't look like a king to the people around him. The inscription Pilate put over Jesus' head was designed to be sarcastic, to create a laugh. Jesus announced that the kingdom of God was at hand. The Roman executioners taunted him—fine, have your kingdom right here on this wood. And so he did.

There was no way Roman crucifixion could mean anything but defeat. Jesus was hung on the cross, cursed by the law, left to die with his vision of a "reign of God." The gibbet was a place of shame. Isn't a king supposed to know triumph? *But he did.*

What does a condemned criminal think about in his last hours? To one side, Jesus hears a voice that condemns him again: "Why don't you help? Are you the Messiah?" (What had this man heard? Had *he* ever hoped Jesus was able to save?) But from another cross, we hear a dying man speak with prophetic insight. He trusts Jesus. He asks Jesus to remember him. *And he will.*

In the clouded scene on Calvary Hill, we see the mixture of light and darkness that surrounded Jesus through his life, came to his trial, and accompanied his death.

But we celebrate him as King today, because in him God "delivered us from the power of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

He is risen from the dead.

May the grace and peace of our Savior be with you!

DAN FINUCANE | [sundaybulletins@liguori.org](mailto:sundaybulletins@liguori.org)

*Liguori Publications is deeply grateful to Dan Finucane, whose thought-provoking, gracefully written meditations have given us new insights into the Sunday readings for the last three years.*

## Today's Readings

2 Sm 5:1-3

Col 1:12-20

Lk 23:35-43

**Liguori**

PUBLICATIONS

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Liguori, MO 63057-9999

# St. Stephen Catholic Church

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

**Deacon: Carlos Frias (682-239-9241)**

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Jeanette Houle-817-613-8008  
doschicas@att.net

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dmendolia@prodigy.net

**Accountant – Ron Westendorf**

**Choir Director – Dave Mees**

817-596-5097

**Parish Pastoral Council President—**

Chuck Schabow 817-599-6644

**Club House—817-599-8423**

**Pro Shop—817-599-8431**

## 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 at the Chapel (211 South Main Street)**

**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**

**Youth Web Page—**  
www.ststephenyouth.com

**Gift Shop – 30 minutes before and after**  
each weekend Mass and during  
Religious Education Classes

## WELCOME NEW FAMILIES AND VISITORS

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

## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	November 20	6:00 PM	Viola Mikus, RIP
Sunday	November 21	8:00 AM	Isabel Tacchi
		10:45 AM	Aidan Maguire, RIP
		12:30 PM	La Comunidad
Monday	November 22	8:45 AM	Phillip Dyer
Tuesday	November 23	8:45 AM	<b>Communion Service</b>
Wednesday	November 24	8:45 AM	Pat Wright, RIP
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>November 25</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>In Thanksgiving</b>
Friday	November 26	8:45 AM	Mathilda Bierschenk, RIP
Saturday	November 27	6:00 PM	Elida Bergara, RIP
Sunday	November 28	8:00 AM	Phillip Dyer
		10:45 AM	Our Community
		12:30 PM	Accion De Garcia

## Thoughts and Prayers at Thanksgiving

*Whenever hands are clasped in prayer,  
Our Loving Lord is always there,  
And knows our thoughts without a word—  
In His great love, all prayers are heard.  
Have a Blessed Thanksgiving*



**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) Linda Graham (817-596-0113)  
**Weekly Visitation of the Sick & Shut-Ins.** Contact the church office at 817-596-9585 to be on the schedule.  
**Annulments**—If you are divorced and need a church annulment, please contact the church office at 817-596-9585.  
**Census Information**—Please notify the church office if you are new to our Parish, have a change of address or phone number, or moved 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**  
November 13-14  
\$9,449.50

**SECOND COLLECTION**  
November 20-21  
Campaign for  
Human Development

**Thanksgiving Mass will be 10 AM**

**Thursday, November 25**

**No Religious Education Classes, Bible Study,  
Adult Catechism, or Breakfast on November 28**

**Classes Resume December 5**

**The Church Office will be closed November 25 & 26**

**ADVENT begins Sunday, November 28.** Advent materials are available in the church foyer. Because of the Thanksgiving Holidays, all bulletin items for the weekend of November 27-28 are due in the church office no later than **12 Noon, Monday, November 22.**

**Flowers for the Altar Are a Gift from**

**Lawrence & Barbara Bierschenk**

**In Thanksgiving**



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

Please join us this Sunday between Masses for breakfast in the Parish Hall provided by the **Hispanic Group.**

**THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY** will sell meals after the 12:30 PM Mass. All proceeds will be contributed to the land purchase. **LA COMUNIDAD HISPANA** comenzara a vender comida todos los domingos despues de la misa de 12:30 PM y el dinero de la venta sera para ayudar a pagar la tierra que se compro. **A total of \$6,195.00 has been donated.**

## PROPERTY PURCHASE INFORMATION

**Loan on New Property—\$1,381,582.71**  
**Monthly Interest Payment—\$6,141.42**  
**Total Contributions to Date—\$208,961.18**  
**Interest Paid to Date—\$199,006.16**  
**Principal Paid to Date—\$250,259.00**  
**November Contributions—\$7,225.00**  
**October Interest Payment—\$6,427.38**

**GIFT SHOP. I'm Not Being Fed – Jeff Cavins.** Jeff Cavins explores some of the reasons why so many have left the Catholic Church for evangelical Christianity. He responds to the most commonly heard complaint of these former Catholics – that they simply were not being “fed” by their church. As he presents the story of his own return to Catholicism, Cavins builds a case for the unique character of the Catholic Church as the church founded by Christ.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.** No classes will be held on **Sunday, November 28** in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday. **EDUCATION RELIGIOSA** - No habra clases el Domingo, Noviembre 28 en observacion del Dia de Gracias.

**PARKER COUNTY JAIL MINISTRY** will meet on **Wednesday, December 1**, at 7 PM in the Parish Hall. Anyone interested in this ministry, please join us. For information contact Barb or Paul Claffey at 817-220-2681.

**The Ladies Altar Society GIFT BASKET & CRAFT SALE** November 20th and 21st following the Masses. We will have beautiful gift baskets as well as a great assortment of handmade stocking stuffers.

**CDA CRAFT FAIR** – Holy Spirit Center **Saturday, December 4**, 9AM – 4PM. Vendors needed – forms available in the office or call Murielle at 817-266-1751.

**PEOPLE'S CHOICE VOTE & SILENT AUCTION—Fantasy Forest Christmas Tree Decorating Competition and Silent Auction.** As part of the Christmas on the Square festivities, St. Stephen Church has a tree in the “Standard Division.” Your daily vote and auction bid is needed. Silent auction and voting for People’s Choice will be held at Weatherford City Hall, 303 Palo Pinto (corner of Alamo Street) until Friday, December 3. **All proceeds from our Fantasy Tree and the Silent Auction will be donated to the Chapel Renovation Fund.** Thank you to Janie Blanchard, Norma Gonzales, Roberta Kelly, Deannie Rooney, Cathy Ruiz, Francine Sours and Murielle Wright for all their donations and hard work for the Fantasy Tree.

**BLOOD DRIVE.** There will be a **blood drive on Sunday, December 5** from **9AM to 2:30 PM**. The bloodmobile will be located on the new property by the flag pole. Please remember those in need. Thank you. Phone Sophia at 817 596-5665 for more information.

**DONACION DE SANGRE** - Habra una coleccion de Sangre el DOMINGO, 5 de Diciembre de 9:00 a.m. a 2:30 p.m. El Mobile del Carter Blood Center estara estacionado en la nueva propiedad junto al mastil de la bandera. Gracias por recordar a aquellos que necesitan de su generosidad. Si tiene alguna pregunta, por favor llamar a Sophia al 817-596-5665.



## Thanksgiving

is the bounty of the harvest, the beauty of the season,  
the blessing of God's many gifts in life.

## Family Activity

Bible Reading  
Hymn of Thanks  
Giving to the Savior  
Psalm 118: 1 & 2, 28 & 29

**THANKSGIVING BASKETS.** Families are invited to participate by providing canned/dry food for the Thanksgiving Baskets. Baskets for donations are in place with a list of pantry items needed by the classroom doors for this weekend. **You can also drop your donation in the basket in the Church Foyer.**

**CHRISTMAS SHARING.** We have adopted 20 shut-ins from the local nursing homes. If you would like to help, contact the Church Office at 817-596-9585 for a list of suggested items. **Please return your wrapped and labeled gifts by Sunday, December 12, to the Christmas Box in the Parish Hall.**

**PRISON MINISTRY.** Thank you again for your generosity by including the children of the incarcerated. All the Angels have been adopted. **Gifts are due in the Christmas Box in the Parish Hall by Sunday, December 5.**

## "WHY CATHOLIC"

To learn how we can share in His inheritance.

## TEEN CORNER

### Youth Grades 7 and above

**Wednesday, November 24:** No Youth Group Meeting—*Happy Thanksgiving.*

**NEW! Youth Ministry Website.** The new YM website is now up and running. Information about all youth activities, events, and ministries, as well as downloadable youth forms can be found on this web page. The page and content are still under construction, but we would love for you to visit our site. More information will be added regularly. You can find us at [www.ststephenyouth.com](http://www.ststephenyouth.com)

**Para las personas que decidir tomar las platicas Pre-Bautismales en Diciembre, favor de registrarse con el Diacono después de cualquier Misa Dominical.**

## WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Sunday, November 21

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)  
3:30 PM Youth Praise & Worship Practice (Church)

### Monday, November 22

6:30 PM Spanish Children's Choir Practice  
6:30 PM Altar Servers Training (Church)  
7:00 PM R.C.I.A. (Room 14)  
7:00 PM R.C.I.A adapted for Children (Room 15)  
7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop #72 (Clubhouse)  
7:00 PM Practice for Our Lady of Guadalupe Festival

### Tuesday, November 23

9:30 AM Ladies Bible Study  
7:00 PM Grupo de Oracion  
7:00 PM Knights of Columbus (Clubhouse)

### Wednesday, November 24

7:00 PM Choir Practice  
7:00 PM Practice for Our Lady of Guadalupe Festival

### Thursday, November 25

10:00 AM Thanksgiving Mass

### Friday, November 26

7:00 PM Practice for Our Lady of Guadalupe Festival

### Saturday, November 27

7:00 PM Cursillistas Ultreya

November 21, 2010

# Dear Padre

## Should we extend our hands when we pray the Our Father?

**Q** I went to Mass at my sister's parish. When the assembly prayed the Our Father, they extended their hands the same way the priest does. We don't do this at my parish. Are we supposed to?

Cheryl

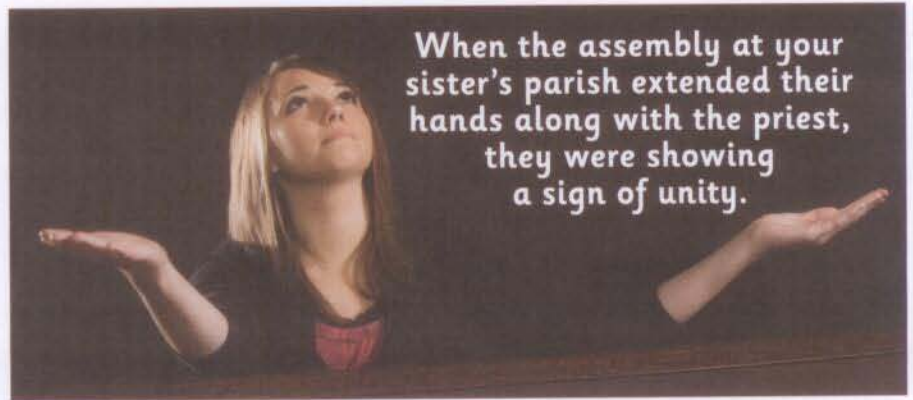
Dear Cheryl,

In both the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM)*, where the guidelines for liturgical celebrations are set forth by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and in the *Sacramentary*, the book the priest uses at the altar to follow the rubrics (rules) of the Mass, the priest is directed to extend his hands during the Our Father as a sign that the prayer is offered to God. Neither book mentions gestures required for the assembly.

When the assembly at your sister's parish extended their hands along with the priest, they were showing a sign of unity. In some parishes, members of the assembly join hands with those next to them, also a sign of unity.

If we encounter a difference in the liturgy and we're certain it is contrary to the faith or good morals, it's important to deal with the issue charitably. Sometimes the proper authority has discerned and given permission for the difference, or maybe it's an option our own parish simply hasn't chosen to exercise. In all things, we should remain charitable and respond with open hearts to our bishops in union with the Holy Father, who have been chosen by Providence to guide us in our worship that it may always be true.

Bob Lindsey, C.Ss.R.



When the assembly at your sister's parish extended their hands along with the priest, they were showing a sign of unity.

DESIGNPICS

**Monday** ■

**November 22**

*Saint Cecilia, virgin and martyr*  
Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5  
Lk 21:1-4

**Tuesday** ■ ■ ■ ■

**November 23**

*Weekday*  
Rv 14:14-19  
Lk 21:5-11

**Wednesday** ■

**November 24**

*Saint Andrew Dung-Lac, priest and martyr, and his companions, martyrs*  
Rv 15:1-4 / Lk 21:12-19

**Thursday** ■ ■ ■

**November 25**

*Weekday*  
Rv 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a  
Lk 21:20-28

**Friday** ■

**November 26**

*Weekday*  
Rv 20:1-4, 11-21:2  
Lk 21:29-33

**Saturday** ■ ■

**November 27**

*Weekday*  
Rv 22:1-7  
Lk 21:34-36

**Sunday** ■

**November 28**

*First Sunday of Advent*  
Is 2:1-5  
Rom 13:11-14  
Mt 24:37-44

