

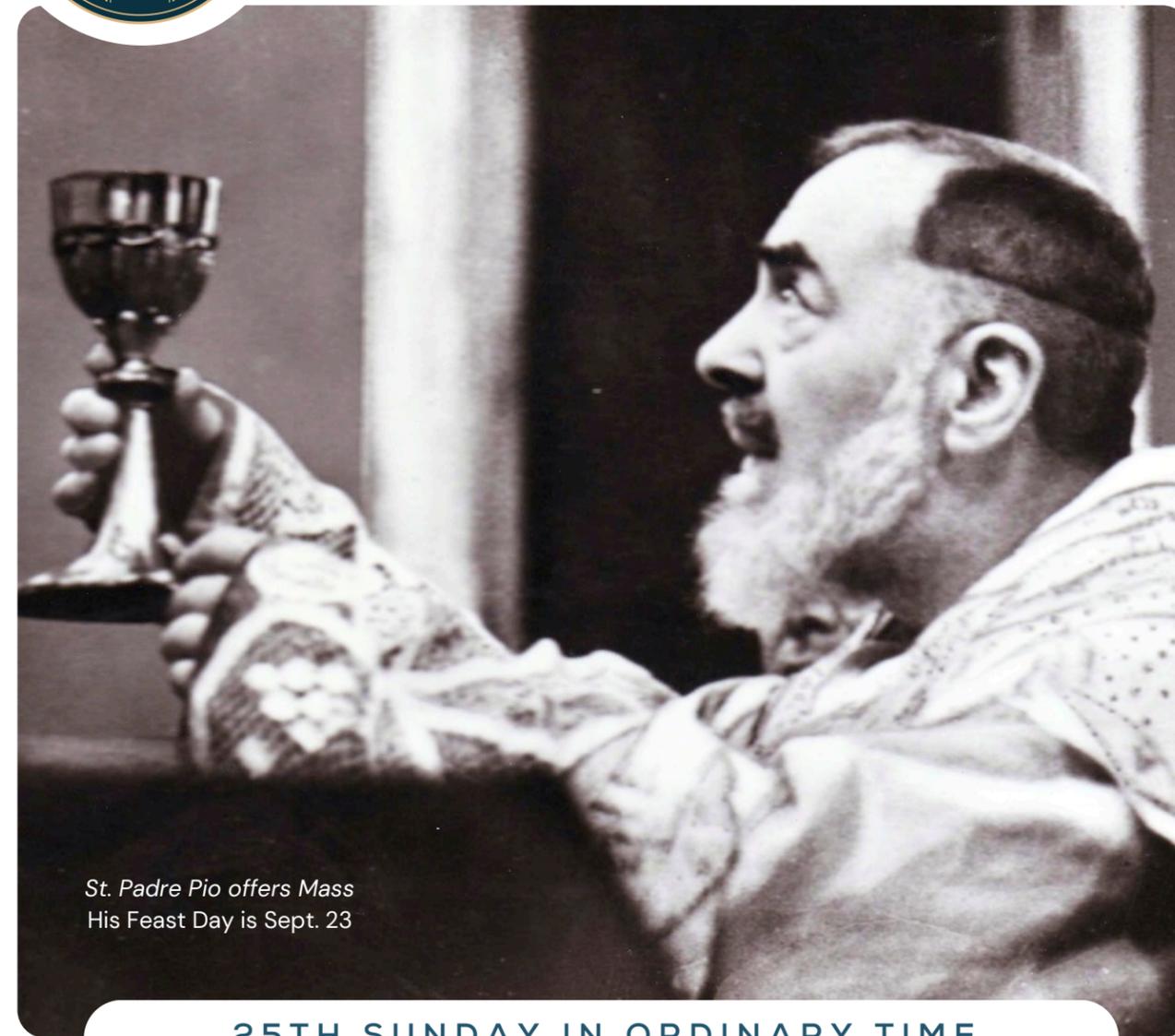
THANK YOU TO OUR BULLETIN SPONSORS – these yearly ads help to support the weekly publishing of this bulletin and other printed materials like liturgical leaflets. Our weekly bulletin helps us fulfill our mission to spread the Gospel and teach the faith in our community. – Fr. Istre



SAINT STEPHEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH

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St. Padre Pio offers Mass
His Feast Day is Sept. 23

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
21 SEPTEMBER 2025

CONTACT OUR
PARISH OFFICE

ststephenberwick.org

Hours Mon-Wed: 9am-noon, 1-3pm
Thursday: Closed, Friday: 9am-noon

Phone 985-385-1280

Email ststephenchurch@atvci.net

THE HOLY SACRIFICE
OF THE MASS

Saturday (Anticipatory) – 4 pm
Sunday – 7 am, 10 am, & 6:30 pm
Mon, Tues, Wed, & Fri – 12:10 pm

Confessions

Saturday – 3 pm to 3:50 pm
+ Half an hour before other Masses

FROM THE HEART OF THE PASTOR

Dear Parish Family,

ST. PADRE PIO ON THE HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY

This week, the Church will celebrate the Feast of St. Padre Pio. He is well known for receiving the Stigmata (wounds that mirror the wounds of the Crucified Christ). St. Padre Pio also spoke frequently of the Poor Holy Souls in Purgatory.

In 1922 Bishop Alberto Costa asked Padre Pio if he had ever seen a soul in Purgatory. Padre Pio responded, "I have seen so many of them that they don't scare me anymore." There are many accounts of souls in Purgatory interacting with St. Padre Pio and asking for his prayers – especially the Holy Mass.

In one such story, a friar who had lived and died at the same monastery as Padre Pio appeared late at night in the chapel. The friar begged Padre Pio to say Holy Mass for his soul. Padre Pio told him, "he must remain in Purgatory until the Mass scheduled in the morning. To which he responded, 'Cruel' and disappeared. Padre Pio said, "I still have a wound in my heart. I could have sent him immediately to Paradise, instead he had to stay one more night in Purgatory."

The souls being purified in Purgatory are ultimately destined for heaven, but they need our prayers to help them get there.

AROUND THE PARISH

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES AND FATIMA Intention Boxes Available in Church

On October 1st, Fr. Istre will lead a pilgrimage with 38 parishioners to the great Marian Shrines of Lourdes, France and Fatima, Portugal. We will take with us the prayers and intentions of our whole parish family.

If you would like to write a prayer petition to be taken by Fr. Istre to Lourdes or Fatima, there are slips of paper and two baskets in the back of church. These intentions will be prayed with throughout the pilgrimage, and delivered to the respective shrines.

ALL SOULS CANDLES Available in the Office Starting October 1

Candles can be reserved in memory of a departed loved one. They will burn before the Altar of Our Lady during the All Souls Day Requiem Masses (Saturday, November 1 at 4pm, and Sunday, Nov. 2 at 7am, 10am, and 6:30 pm.)

PARISH BLESSING OF PETS Sunday, September 28, at 2pm

Join us for the blessing of pets on Sunday, September 28 at 2pm under the hall portico.



THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

22 September - Votive of the Trinity

The Poor Holy Souls in Purgatory

23 September - Saint Pius of Pietreicina

Pat Robbins, Annalee Daigle, In thanksgiving to St. Padre Pio

24 September - Votive of St. Joseph

Brittany Loupe fly. (L&D)

26 September - Votive of the Sacred Heart

The Poor Holy Souls in Purgatory, Marcel, Himel, Falgout & Breaux flys. (L&D)

27 September - 4 pm Anticipatory Mass

Louis Boudreaux, Wade J. Landry, Sr., Miles Liner fly (L&D), E.J. & Gerry Lemoine fly. (L&D), Herman Pellerin fly. (L&D), Hazel Richard, Leroy Gray, John Tholen, Louis & Girlie Berthelot

28 September - 7am Mass

Deanna Sampey, Kenneth Garber, Sr., Ray & Chaille Raspberry, Calvin Leleux fly. (L&D), Marian Pilgrimage group, Mary Undoer of Knots

10 am Solemn Mass

Pro Populo, Laura Magee Larive fly. (L&D), Eljean Chauvin Nesmith, Bob Radtke, Annalee Daigle, Peggy Gowland, Brooke Kidder

6:30 pm Mass

Craig Nini

WHY USE ONLINE GIVING OR ENVELOPES?

Why should I use offertory envelopes? Because in a very materialistic world, followers of Jesus get distracted, so we need reminders. Envelopes help us organize and carefully think out our manner of giving to the Lord. Without envelopes, we tend to reach into our pockets at the last moment and give left-overs, what we do not really need. Thus, we easily end up giving a waiter at a restaurant (the 15-20% tip), more than we give to the Lord each week.

When something is special or important, we usually wrap the gift up. Using envelopes helps us "wrap up" our gift for Jesus each week, making it more meaningful. Call the Church Office to get set up to receive Offertory Envelopes.

Why use online giving? Online giving offers the same opportunity to organize our manner of giving – with the added benefit of simple, online setup.

LOOKING AHEAD

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP CONTINUES

Wednesday, September 24, at 6 pm
Youth Group will meet every other Wednesday on the first floor of the Parish Hall, at 6pm

PARISH BLESSING OF PETS

Sunday, September 28 at 2pm

ALL SOULS CANDLES AVAILABLE

Wednesday, October 1, in the Parish Office

SAVE THE DATE for NOEL NIGHT



Thursday, December 11, 2025,
6 pm at the Petroleum Club

Tickets will be available beginning October 20.
For advance information, call Ros in the parish office.

ST. STEPHEN YOUTH GROUP

ST. MARY YOUTH GROUP



THANK YOU
to all who signed up to
bring snacks to our youth
group meetings!

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Offertory	\$ 8,851
Building & Maintenance	\$ 585
Total Weekly Giving	\$ 9,436

ONLINE GIVING

Online giving is a safe, easy way to support your parish. Go to ststephenberwick.org and click on the "Give" tab, or, scan the QR code, at right.



"THEOLOGY IN A BOTTLE" DATES:

"POP & POUR"

Fatherhood and Masculinity

Fr. Blake Dubroc
Vocation Director,
Lafayette

August 14, 6:30 pm

"REWIND & REVINED"

Helping Adult Kids

Back to the Faith
Mathew Ardoin,
Campus Minister,
UL Lafayette

September 4, 6 pm

"SIPPING & SERVING"

Living Lives of Service

Dr. Denise Benton
UL Lafayette,
Professor

October 14, 6 pm

"PRUNING THE VINE"

Digital Overload & Toxicity

Fr. Jamin David
Vicar General,
Baton Rouge

November 13, 6 pm
at One80 Downtown



ST. STEPHEN
EARLY LEARNING CENTER
Play, Learn, and grow Together!