

SAINT STEVEN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Mission

Through actively living the sacraments,
our community is made new by
Christ to love God and one another.

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY—FRIDAY 8:00 a.m.

SATURDAY 4:00 p.m. (vigil)

SUNDAY 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

HOLY DAYS 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

CONFESSION

SATURDAY 2:45 p.m.—3:45 p.m.

ADORATION

MONDAY—THURSDAY (only)
8:30, 9:30, 10:30 a.m.
1:30 & 2:30 p.m.

PRIEST

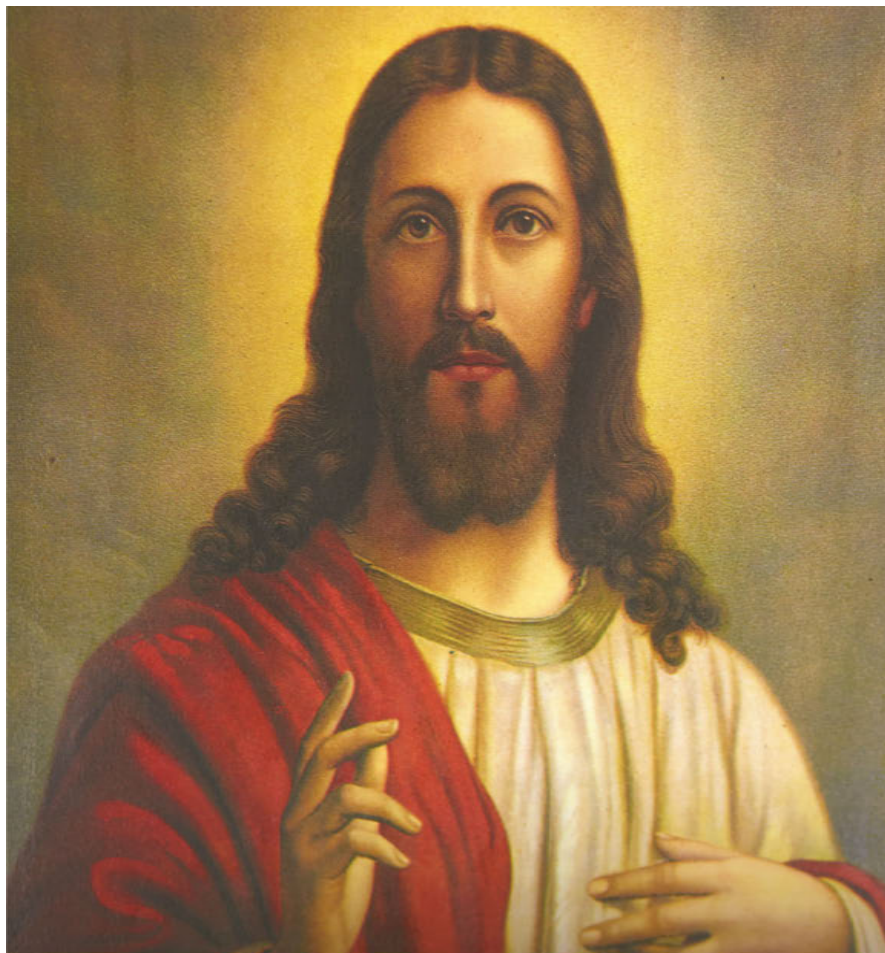
Rev. Wilfred Yinah,
Parochial Administrator

DEACONS

Rev. Mr. Richard Corwin
Rev. Mr. David Runyan

STAFF

Karen Call—Administrative Asst.
Karen@ststevensaz.org
Yadi De La Torre—Catechetical Coord.
Yadira@ststevensaz.org
Ryan Dugan—Accounting
Ryan@ststevensaz.org
Andrew Gaitan—Audio/Video
Andrew@ststevensaz.org
Nick Garza—Music Director
Nick@ststevensaz.org
Nikki Garza—Liturgy
Nikk@ststevensaz.org
Tom Juran—Maintenance
Don Young—Maintenance



21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"People will come from the east and the west and from the north and the south and will recline at table in the kingdom of God. For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last." - Lk 13:29-30

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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Office Hours

MONDAY—THURSDAY
9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
FRIDAY—CLOSED

GIFT SHOP HOURS

MONDAY—THURSDAY
9:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

They shall bring all your brothers and sisters from all the nations
as an offering to the LORD. (Is 66:20)

PSALM:

Go out to all the world and tell the Good News. (Ps 117)
Or Alleluia.

SECOND READING:

"My son, do not disdain the discipline of the Lord
or lose heart when reprov'd by him;
for whom the Lord loves, he disciplines." (Heb 12:5-6)

GOSPEL:

And people will come from the east and the west
and from the north and the south
and will recline at table in the kingdom of God. (Lk 13:29)

MASS INTENTIONS & CELEBRANTS

Weekend of August 20th-21st—[21st Sunday in Ordinary Time]

4:00 pm	(S.I.) Bill Mariner.....Fr. Wilfred
8:00 am	<i>Pro Populo</i>Fr. Wilfred
10:00 am	✠ Joan Kelley.....Fr. Wilfred

Monday, August 22nd—[Memorial -The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary]

8:00 am	✠ James Flannery.....Fr. Wilfred
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Tuesday, August 23rd—[Optional Memorial—Saint Rose of Lima, Virgin]

8:00 am	(S.I.) Manuel Castaneda...Fr. Wilfred
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Wednesday, August 24th—[Feast of—Saint Bartholomew, Apostle]

8:00 am	✠ Frank Vaughn.....Fr. Wilfred
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Thursday, August 25th—[Optional Memorial—Saint Louis; Saint Joseph Calasanz]

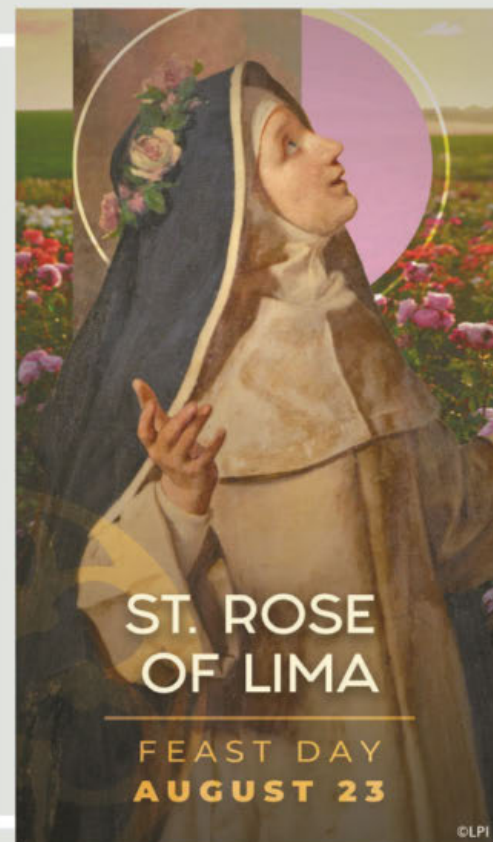
8:00 am	✠ Bernadette Zerrenner.....Fr. Wilfred
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Friday, August 26th—[Weekday—21]

8:00 am	✠ Pierson Day.....Fr. Wilfred
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Weekend of August 27th-28th—[22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time]

4:00 pm	✠ Tony Black.....Fr. Wilfred
8:00 am	✠ Shawn & Aaron Scagliotti.....Fr. Wilfred
10:00 am	<i>Pro Populo</i>Fr. Wilfred



Saint of the Week

Born Isabel Flores de Olivia in April 1586 in Lima, Peru to Spanish colonists, Saint Rose of Lima took the name Rose at her confirmation in 1597. Legend holds that she received this nickname as an infant because a servant saw her face transformed into a rose.

Even as a child Saint Rose was dedicated to Christ. Growing up she made many secret penances. And when she was old enough to be married, deterred suitors by cutting off her hair and rubbing pepper on face to make it blister. She took a vow of chastity even though her parents wished her to marry. She fasted many times a week and permanently abstained from meat. Eventually her parents gave in and allowed her to join the Third Order of St. Dominic, although she was not permitted to live in a convent. Saint Rose undertook severe penances, allowing herself only two hours of sleep a night in order to have more time to pray, wearing a heavy silver crown with spikes on the inside imitating Christ's crown of thorns, and even burning her own hands. However, she also cared for the sick and hungry, and sold her beautiful embroidery and fine lace, as well as flowers she grew to help raise funds for the poor. She died at the age of 31 on August 24, 1617. Pope Clement X canonized her in 1671, she was the first saint of the New World, born in the Americas. Saint Rose of Lima is the patron saint of Latin America and the Philippines.

Reflection

21 Sunday in ordinary time year C

Theme: Try your best to enter by the narrow door

A very happy Sunday to you all. In the gospel, Jesus answers a very difficult question: Sir, will there be only a few saved? His response was very simple, smart, and of course, an intelligent one: “Try your best to enter by the narrow door...! Rather than occupy oneself with arguments about the number of those to be saved, it is better to work hard in order to be saved. Let me invite you to heed Jesus’ call by relentlessly striving to be candidates of heaven. My beloved brothers and sisters, for Christ, entry into heaven is the result and reward of hard work and steadfastness. He says in Luke 13:24, ‘strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many will attempt but will not be strong enough’.

The struggle to gain entrance into heaven entails: (1). Forgoing personal cares and pleasures, (2). Imbibing self-discipline and accepting that which God brings to us. (3) Following the gospel values proposed by Jesus in the gospels. It is a road of thorns, sufferings, pain, trials and temptations, and persecution. It is the way of the Cross. However challenging, this journey may be, we ought to patiently strive all the time trusting in God’s omniscience.

St. Paul’s letter to the Galatians 4:5 tells us that Christ redeemed us from the law and adopted us as sons. If then we are sons, Hebrews 12:5 maintains, we must bear the discipline of the Lord and accept it with joy.

The second reading from Hebrews reminds us that it is obedience and discipline that will help us respond, and effectively return to the Lord. The path to this return will definitively not be easy one. In it, we shall encounter thorns and pains. As a loving father, God will also reprimand and punish us. However, this is to correct and guide us through the right path.

Moreover, Jesus wants us to realize that being so religious; belonging to many ministries in Church, attending daily Masses and frequenting Holy Communion, taking care of the Church and its environs, donating plentifully for the upkeep of the Church, etc. alone does not in any way guarantee our entrance into heaven. The message is simple, our religiosity must be backed up by a spirituality or piety; love of God and man, following Christ and abiding by his dictates.

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, the journey towards the narrow gate of heaven begins now, let us “strengthen our drooping hands and knees, make straight paths for our feet” (Heb. 12:12-13), that we travel quickly and perseveringly towards heaven. We are therefore called to be focused and disciplined to be part of the great gathering of the saints.

Fr Wilfred Yinah

LIVE THE LITURGY

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Discipline is necessary for us to focus our attention and develop and refine our skills. A disciplined person has integrity and can make difficult but necessary choices. Most people do not like discipline, especially children. When we have to rise above our impulses and desires and do something challenging, it can appear as a punishment. The struggles of living a good and effective Christian life, especially when we actively choose virtue over vice, are allowed by God and necessary for reaching spiritual maturity. God invites us to share in His Kingdom. Hearing and accepting that invitation requires an active, conscious decision on our part. Reforming our lives and changing how we do things does not come easily. But it is precisely what is necessary for us to enter through the narrow gate that leads to life. Discipline is essential if we are going to discover our desire for union with our Creator and live in God's house. In this way, we will not risk finding the door locked when we need it to be open.

GO OUT TO THE WORLD AND TELL THE GOOD NEWS.



PSALM 117

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support at this time. Thank you!



August Anniversaries

Donald & Harriet Jagielski	66	Joseph & Lynette Spicka	53
Eugene & Kathleen Matesi	65	Leland & Martha Williams	52
Glenn & Theresa Godwin	64	Don & Rose Saunders	49
David & Ronnie Wardell	59	Burt & Jan Williams	45
Gary & Kathy Neffenger	58	Tony & Diane Astrella	42
Bob & Andrea Toloso	58	Chad & Kendra Clemons	25
Nick & Nikki Galovich	56	Bill & Sue Fritzler	21
Richard & Jill Collins	53	Dave & Mary Rock	16

GOSPEL MEDITATION

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

The serious disciple knows the necessity and value of discipline. Thinking of discipline as something punitive in nature, we underscore its place in our spiritual lives. Discipline is really about a radical trust in God and his guidance. "When you are conducted by a guide who takes you through an unknown country at night across fields where there are no tracks, by his own skill, asking no advice from anyone, giving no inkling of his plans, what choice do you have but to give yourself completely to his guidance? If you are convinced that he is a good guide, you must have faith in him and abandon yourself to his care (Jean-Pierre de Caussade)."

If someone wants to be physically fit, they readily find a competent trainer who sets them on a rigorous schedule. Determined to reach their goals, they sacrifice personal pleasure and trust in his guidance. Why should it be any different with God? In order to remain true to the way Jesus places before us, we have to listen, learn, and be willing to change. Falling in love with God and maintaining that relationship requires an investment of time, energy, and



hard work. Putting personal preferences aside in pursuit of the Gospel and giving proper attention to our spiritual lives is challenging work. At first, "all discipline seems a cause not for joy but for pain, yet later it brings the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who are trained by it (Hebrews)."

"What God does is essentially good. It does not need to be reformed or controlled... If you would live according to the Gospels, give yourself completely and simply to the action of God (Jean-Pierre

de Caussade)." Submission to the holy will of God is not a submission to a set of pre-ordained set of circumstances. Rather, it is an abandonment and trust in God's creative, life-giving, and salvific power. God brings light out of darkness and life out of death. Nurturing this bond of trust and seeking God in all things creates an intimate and particular relationship and bond between our Creator and us. When He comes, there will be no issue with us recognizing Him or Him recognizing us. We will have met before.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2022-2023

Registration is Open Kindergarten—3rd grade

To register a child(ren) for RE Classes:

Families must be active, registered member of St. Stevens Catholic Church.

Packets may be picked up in the Parish office or you may download/print the packet from the St. Steven's website, tab Faith Formation.

If you have any questions, Contact Yadi @ 480-895-9266 ext. 109

Tuition rates for active, registered members

Non-registered parishioner rates available.

Grief Support Living with Loss

Group Meetings

1st & 3rd Mondays

9:30am—11am

One on one meetings
by appointment

Call Bette @ 480-802-6982

CHANCING THE NARROW GATE

From doctors to counselors, anthropologists to schoolteachers, it seems like everyone has their own parenting style to peddle, guaranteeing it will result in a happy and well-adjusted kid.

You've got "gentle parenting," predicated on respect for the child's feelings and needs. You've got "attachment parenting," based on the belief that kids need time to adjust to being outside of the womb. You've got "free-range parenting," where self-sufficiency reigns supreme.

But of all the parenting approaches I've come across, I've never encountered a philosophy that rejects discipline altogether. There are lots of conflicting opinions on how best to administer that discipline, but I've never heard any parent or parenting "expert" worth their salt say that a mother or father should completely ignore misbehavior that threatens the well-being of the child himself.

Discipline is in our human DNA. Consider for a moment what the world would look like if it

came to be filled with people who had never been taught to reflect on their life challenges. People who bristled at the suggestion of personal growth.

And yet we become this way with God. Even the most "devout" among us shy away from occasions of divine constructive criticism. We avoid confession and forego daily examinations of conscience. We keep things superficial in our prayer life, avoiding depth of heart and real intimacy with God, afraid of what He will speak to us.

But when we do this, we rob ourselves of an opportunity to rely on God's fatherly strength, to rest in His mercy, to fill ourselves up with His goodness. We're putting up our hands, saying: "No thanks, Father, I'm good. You can keep your discipline. You can keep your grace."

When we do this, we are making a beeline for the "narrow gate," sure of our own strength and ability to pass through it. All I can say is this, proceed at your own peril. Are you so sure of yourself?

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

HOW CAN I PRACTICE GRATITUDE IN MY EVERYDAY LIFE?

God has given each of us many blessings. Fostering an "attitude of gratitude" might be easier than you think. Simple, concrete practices can help us to be more thankful more often. Incorporate it into your dinner with your spouse, or as you tuck the kids into bed at night. *"What are three things you're thankful for today?"* Make a habit of writing one note a week to someone special in your life, thanking them for how they've impacted you. This is also a good practice in the workplace. Consider opening your weekly meetings with a quick round of gratitude sharing. *"I'm grateful John helped me with that last-minute change to my presentation last week. I wouldn't have finished it in time for the meeting without him."*

Another way is to designate a few minutes to thank God. This could be the first bit of your daily prayer time or after you receive

communion on Sundays. You can also integrate it into your daily routine. How about while brushing your teeth? There's probably nothing so important it can't wait two minutes. Brush your teeth, quiet your mind, and thank God from your heart for His blessings throughout the day. Get creative! Any moment is an opportunity to praise and thank God.



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