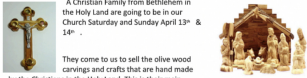


**FARMERS STORE**  
 BULK BEYOND ORGANIC FARMERS' COOPERATIVE  
 6715 Smithville Highway, Sparta, TN 38583  
 PHONE: (931) 738-8383 (Mon-Fri)  
 https://www.farmersstorehouse.com/

Olive Wood from the Holy Land coming to our church



We need to support these people by buying their beautiful olive wood carvings and crafts so we can help our brothers and sisters stay in the Holy Land. Pray for the Christians in the Holy Land and support them so we all can do our part to keep our Christian bells ringing in the Holy Land. Thanks and God bless. www.shepherds-field.com

**Thank you to all who worked so hard to make our church home beautiful for Easter!**



**Are you Pro-Life?**  
 70% of women choose abortion due to financial constraints. Would you be willing to financially adopt their daughter or son?

**Become a Guardian**  
 Pregnant women need a generous person, like you, who can sponsor the cost of their newborn so they can have the reassurance, stability and peace to choose life.

**How It's Done**  
 New mothers receive comprehensive boxes for the first 12 months of life (formula, diapers, baby supplies) everything they need to turn crisis into an unexpected adventure of joy.

**Getting Started**  
 Sponsor 1 Newborn For Their First 12 Months **\$250** for 12 months  
 Join 4 Other Sponsors to Sponsor 1 Newborn **\$50** for 12 months

unplannedjoy.com (931) 313-3388

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- MAY 1 St. Joseph the Worker
- MAY 5 May Procession
- MAY 12 Mother's Day
- MAY 19 Pentecost Sunday
- MAY 20 Mary, Mother of the Church
- MAY 26 Trinity Sunday
- MAY 27 Memorial Day

www.standrewsparta.com

**ST. ANDREW CATHOLIC CHURCH**



829 Valley View Drive. Sparta TN. 38583

Sunday April 14, 2024

Third Sunday of Easter

**MASS TIMES**

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:00pm  
 Sunday 8:30am

Weekday Masses  
 Wednesday 5 pm  
 Thursday 9:30 am

**ADORATION TIMES**

Wednesday 4:00-5:00 pm  
 Saturday 3:00 - 4:00 pm  
 Sunday 8:00 - 8:30 am

**CONFESSION TIMES**

Wednesdays 4:30-5:00 pm  
 Saturdays 3:30-4:00 pm  
 and by appointment.



This week's Major Sponsor 971 Smithville Hwy, Sparta, TN 38583 Tel:(931) 738-8388



**PARISH INFORMATION**

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Friday,  
 9: a.m. - 12 p.m.

Telephone:  
 (931) 264-4859  
 (931) 738-2140

Visit Our Website

Website:  
 www.standrewsparta.com

Please send bulletin changes, ads or announcements 2 weeks ahead to: bulletinsacc@gmail.com



Pastor:  
 Rev. Father Emmanuel Dirichukwu  
 pastor@standrewsparta.com

Debi Donovan  
 Assistant Parish Co-Ordinator  
 parishcoordinator@standrewsparta.com

Samantha Faust  
 Parish Bookkeeper  
 bookkeeper@standrewsparta.com

Elizabeth Bates OCDS  
 Director of Religious Education  
 religiouseducation@standrewsparta.com

Marleen Loff Co-Ordinator  
 Our Home Our Family Outreach  
 OHOFO@standrewsparta.com

Deacon Graham  
 Retired Deacon  
 dmbob80@yahoo.com

**MASS TIMES**

Weekend Masses:  
 Saturday 4:00pm  
 Sunday 8:30am English

Weekday Masses:  
 Wednesday 5 pm  
 Thursday 9:30 am

**ADORATION**

Wednesday 4:00-5:00  
 Saturday 3:00pm - 4:00 pm  
 Sunday 8:00am - 8:30 am



If you are a new parishioner, you are invited to stop by or telephone the parish office to register and let us know how we may be of service to you.

If you have not received weekly offering envelopes, please call the church office (931) 264-4859

If you have new information, such as a change of address or phone numbers, or if you are moving from the parish, please call the Parish office at (931) 264-4859.

Please visit the parish website: www.standrewsparta.com and sign up to receive the weekly email newsletter and parish-wide emails.



Baptism: Please contact The Parish office about the birth of your child.

Reconciliation: Wednesdays 4:30-5:00 Saturdays at 3:30-4:00 and by appointment.

Marriage: Please contact the Parish office at least 4 months in advance for information and scheduling

Anointing of the Sick and homebound. Please contact the Parish Office for information on our Ministry of Care.

**Confession Times:**

Father Emmanuel is available to hear confessions on Saturdays from 3:30pm to 4pm and on Wednesday from 4:30 pm to 5 pm. Other confession times may be arranged directly with Father.

Please consider serving your parish in one of the following: Lector, Eucharist minister, usher. Anyone who is interested please contact either Sondra Tersigni or Monica Jicha after Mass.

Sondra: Spartatn147@gmail.com  
 Monica: doghousemom@benlomand.net

**Eucharistic Saints for the Eucharistic Revival**



In Saint Benedict Joseph Labre there was realized the full meaning contained in the words of God: "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the prudence of the prudent I will reject." (1 Cor 1:19). Saint Benedict Joseph Labre's entrance into the world took place at Amettes, France. He was the first-born of parents who were favored by God with 15 children.

It appears that the spirit of God, which moved him strongly throughout life, came over Saint Benedict Joseph Labre at the age of 16, for from that time onward, he lost all inclination to continue his studies. For that reason, too, his training for the priesthood, which his reverend uncle so earnestly desired, came to naught.

Due to his poor health and lack of knowledge, Saint Benedict Joseph Labre was refused admission also among the Carthusians and the Cistercians. Then it was that he was interiorly instructed to imitate the life of St. Alexis, leave his parents and his native town, live on alms, and visit the great shrines as a pilgrim. From that day on his soul was flooded with great peace. St. Benedict's food was composed of the leavings that fell from the tables of others. Alms that had been given to him he gave to the poor. The rags of this beggar of the Lord covered a heart that glowed with love of God and neighbor, and the tenderest devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and to the Mother of God. At Assisi he was received into the Confraternity of the Cord of St. Francis. He has been the pride of that pious society ever since.

His repulsive exterior caused him more pain than it did others, indeed, his sensitiveness on the subject was his most poignant suffering. He used to say: "Our comfort is not in this world." In Rome he was called the poor man of the Forty Hours' Devotion. On the day of his death, April 16, 1783, he dragged himself to a church in Rome and prayed there for two hours until he collapsed. He was carried into a near-by house, where he died that night most peacefully.

Immediately after his death the people proclaimed him a saint. The guardians of Christian morals, Popes Pius IX and Leo XIII, have proposed the beggar Benedict as an example to a generation steeped in materialism. The former beatified him, the latter proclaimed him a saint of the Church.

**MARCH 2024 OUTREACH REPORT**

During March we served 317 persons through our Food Pantry, but we did so much more under Barbara McCarthy's leadership and guidance in the kitchen!

On Friday, March 15, we enjoyed our first Fish Fry in a very long time. The next two days our cooks presented a wonderful St. Patrick's Day meal of corned beef, cabbage and potatoes after Mass on Saturday and Sunday! Then on Easter Sunday Barbara's team presented a fabulous Easter Brunch. And each Friday after the Stations, Barbara made certain that we had soup, bread and dessert!

Numbers for the Pantry were down somewhat last month, as patrons adjusted to visiting the Pantry during regular hours rather than at our weekend "Sharing God's Bounty!"

We only processed and received one order totaling \$214.10 in March. Yet, we were able to help so many due to our improved storage capabilities!

Great News! Last month we were informed that Second Harvest had awarded St. Andrew with a \$1500 Grant to spend on Food. The grant monies will be spent on more expensive items that we usually are unable to order! We hope to receive that order on April 25. We will also place a minimum order for the same day to help lower the shipping costs.

If you have ever considered serving others through this ministry, please contact Marleen Loff or Vicfor Vale. Truthfully, we need some younger healthy individuals to help lift 30# boxes of meat and 50# bags of produce on our delivery days.



"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." Hebrews 13:16

**ST ANDREW  
MASS SCHEDULE  
INTENTIONS & EVENTS**

**Sunday, April 14, 2024**  
Mass 8:30--Praying for the Parish  
Breakfast 9:30

**Wednesday April 17, 2024**  
Adoration 4:00  
Confession 4:30- 5:00  
5:00 - Mass

**Thursday April 18, 2024**  
Mass - 9:30  
Outreach - 10:00

**Saturday April 20, 2024**  
Adoration 3:00  
Confession 3:30- 4:00  
4:00 - Mass

**Sunday, April 21, 2024**  
Mass 8:30--Praying for the Parish  
Breakfast 9:30  
Religious Education - 10:00

**Monday, April 15, 2024**  
1st Reading: Acts 6: 8-15  
Psalm: Ps 119: 23-24, 26-27, 29-30  
Gospel: John 6: 22-2

**Wednesday, April 17, 2024**  
1st Reading: Acts 8: 1b-8  
Psalm: Ps 66: 1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a  
Gospel: John 6: 35-40

**Friday, April 19, 2024**  
1st Reading: Acts 9: 1-20  
Psalm: Ps 117: 1, 2  
Gospel: John 6: 52-59

**Sunday, April 21, 2024**  
1st Reading: Acts 4: 8-12  
Psalm: Ps 118: 1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29  
2nd Reading: 1 John 3: 1-2  
Gospel: John 10: 11-18,

**Daily Readings**

**Tuesday, April 16, 2024,**  
1st Reading: Acts 7: 51-60  
Psalm: Ps 31: 3cd-4, 6 & 7b & 8a, 17 & 21ab  
Gospel: John 6: 30-35

**Thursday, April 18, 2024,**  
1st Reading: Acts 8: 26-40  
Psalm: Ps 66: 8-9, 16-17, 20  
Gospel: John 6: 44-51, 1-36

**Saturday, April 20, 2024**  
1st Reading: Acts 9: 31-42  
Psalm: Ps 116: 12-13, 14-15, 16-17  
Gospel: John 6: 60-69



**Ministry Schedule**

**April 20/21**

4:00 pm

8:30 am

Lector Marleen Loff  
Eucharistic Ministers Ronnie Cupec  
Sondra Tefsigni

Servers

Ushers (Both Collections)  
Jim Spagnolo  
Tom Sergio  
Volunteer

Monica Jicha  
Pat Wilson  
Barbara Leblanc  
Branton Ferris  
Morris Family  
Samuel Baird  
June Acharya  
Candice Adare  
1st Collection  
Altar Servers  
2nd Collection  
Don Baird  
3 Volunteers



**K- 8 classes meet every Sunday after Mass and a quick bite to eat.**

**RCIA meets every Sunday from 11:00 to noon.**

**Young adults (from high-school through college age) meets every Sunday night from 7-8 pm**

**www.standrewsparta.com  
GET CONNECTED!**

It seems that there may be confusion when accessing the St. Andrew website. When you put the address into the address bar you should see the blue screen.

It will list up-to-date information such as:  
Confession Times  
Adoration Times  
Mass Times  
Event that are scheduled (you may need to scroll)  
The Most Recent Bulletin Pages  
Office and Contact Information

Please continue to keep in your prayers, those who have been brought into full membership in the Catholic faith at our Easter Vigil Mass.



**MAY YOU CONTINUE TO BE JOYFUL!**

This week's Major Sponsor 971 Smithville Hwy, Sparta, TN 38583 Tel:(931) 738-3838

**May the Souls of All the Faithful Departed, Through the Mercy of God, Rest in Peace**



**A PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

God our Father, We thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth and young adults. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.



**Prayer Requests**

Please remember these persons during your personal prayer time this week.

- Cathy Correll
- Fran Sergio
- Elaine Garrett
- Deborah Sladky
- Jennifer Willis
- Heidi Holland
- Diane Barry
- Clara Magushak
- Pat Hepner
- Sue Hubbard
- John Barry

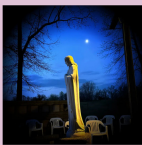


**ST ANDREW'S MEMORIES**

We are people of the Holy Spirit, who leads us to Joy. Join our parish and experience MORE JOY.

**Pictures From Holy Week and Beyond**

**Easter Sunrise Mass at the Columbarium**



**Good Friday Veneration & Easter Morning Mass**



**A Fine Filipino Feast**



Hershie, Narcisca & Marivic chilling, waiting for the crowd, while Mitchie sings!



Mrs. Bates welcomes all back from the Easter Break.

**Reflections**

by Fr. Njoku Canice Chukwuemeka, C.S.Sp

**THE 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

We continue to appreciate God's love for us on this third Sunday of Easter. Today, the Church urges us to continue to be joyful. This is because Christ has not only ransomed us with his precious blood, Christ continues in the scriptures (liturgy of the word) and the breaking of bread (liturgy of the Eucharist), the core of the Holy Mass. In the first reading of this Sunday, after the Pentecostal experience, Peter continues to bear witness to the risen and glorified Christ. He argues that since it was impossible for Christ to be held captive by death, it is equally impossible for us, whom Christ has ransomed with his precious blood, to remain captives. This is because we share in Christ's new life. Now, we abide in his presence. There is no cause for alarm because "Those who abide in the presence of the Almighty God will rest in his shadow" (Ps. 91:1). In the second reading, Peter calls us to live a life that is worthy of our new state through the resurrection of Christ.

*Alleluia! The Risen Christ is Within Us!*

In other words, if God is truly our father, we must try to live holy lives because: "Those who call upon the name of the Lord, must depart from iniquity" (1 Tim 2, 19). It is a life of witness and one that shows that Christ is alive in us.

Today's gospel draws our attention to important aspects of our Christian life. That is the liturgy of the Word and that of the Body and Blood of Christ (The Holy Eucharist). It is important to note the sequence of activities on this journey to Emmaus. First, Christ illuminated the minds of his disciples with scriptures (liturgy of the Word). "Then starting with Moses... he explained to them the passages through the scriptures about himself." Second, Christ celebrated the liturgy of his own body and blood (the Eucharist) with them: "While he was still with them at the table, he took the bread, and said the blessing; then he broke it and gave it to them." Afterward, something significant happened: "Their eyes opened, and they recognized him" It is important to note that it was only after these two celebrations that these disciples recognized Christ, their master.

The celebration of the eucharist with his disciples underscores the importance of Christ's injunction: "Do this in memory of me." Indeed, he has ransomed and given us new life through his paschal mystery. Nevertheless, to sustain and nourish this new life, He left us himself in these two important liturgies of the Holy Mass (Word and Eucharist). Hence, the saying: "Liturgy is Life!" This means that if we forget these liturgies celebrated by Christ, we forget our new life in him. Christ did this today to remind us that each time we celebrate these liturgies worthily, He opens our eyes to recognize his divine presence with us. By breaking bread in memory of Him, He nourishes our life and makes it new every day. Therefore, at Mass, we recognize Christ daily, renewing our life in Him. This is because Christ at Mass offers himself again as a precious ransom for the renewal of our own life. Therefore, let us ask Christ always to open the eyes of our minds so that we may recognize Him during every eucharistic celebration. Alleluia, the risen Christ, is with us!

Peace be with you all!  
Maranatha!

**Play a Joyful Song!**



Carolyn Blackburn stands nearby as Lynnleigh Masters plays "King of Kings" by Hillsong Worship.



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