

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CLASS REGISTRATION

Begins August 2 and
runs through August 16

Classes Begin September 13

Sundays through May of 2027
with Religious Ed from 10-11 am
OCIA from 11 to noon



Use this for online giving

It is quick, Easy, and Secure

ONE- TIME GIFTS are simple by using
a Credit/debit card or
RECURRING GIFTS.

RECURRING GIFTS
can be set up on your
schedule
Track, Change or Manage
your giving.



Wednesday Night Men's Bible
Study with DEACON STEVE

Each session starts at 5:30 pm (or
after Mass) and ends at 7:00 pm.
All men of any age are welcome.

UPCOMING ADULT
BIBLE STUDY
with Judy Elliott
DETAILS PAGE 6

MORE GREAT NEWS!

OUTREACH FOOD PANTRY

Now Open from 9 am to noon
Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday and Friday
(no Thursday due
to the delivery)



www.standrewsparta.com

ST. ANDREW CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday August 16, 2026



God's Mercy reaches all Nations

MASS TIMES

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:00 pm

Sunday 8:30 am

Weekday Masses

Wednesday, 5:00 pm

Thursday 9:30 am

CONFESSION TIMES

Wednesday 4:30 - 5:00 pm

Saturday 3:30 - 4:00 pm

and by appointment

ADORATION TIMES

Wednesday 4-5:00 pm

Saturday 3-4:00 pm



This week's Major Sponsor 971 Smithville Hwy, Sparta, TN 38583 Tel: (931) 738-3833



829 Valley View Dr. Sparta TN. 38583

The Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Reflections

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

On this twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time, the Church draws our attention to God's invitation and mercy to humanity. God's invitation and mercy are without borders. This means that we all have equal opportunities to do it through our response of faith.

In the first reading, God promises to bring all nations together. This is the expansion and extension of His salvation project toward all nations of the earth. First, this project began with, and was for Israel. "God's firstborn" (Ex 2:22). Now, out of his mercy, God extends it to all other nations of the earth. This demonstrates God's mercy for all nations who will respond to his invitation through faith. So, God promises that He will bring even foreigners to his house. "These, I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house." However, this promise is based on one condition. "They have attached themselves to the Lord in order to love him and to serve him."

In the second reading, Paul also strikes the same chord as Isaiah. It suffices to note that when Paul says, "Mercy to all," he is not saying God will save everyone. Instead, His mercy is available to all those who will respond accordingly to his invitation. For "Whoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Acts 2: 21). So, Paul demonstrates his confidence in God's mercy. He insists that, although some have rejected God as Israel (the covenant people) did, God himself has not rejected or forgotten them. This is because "God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice." He is trustworthy and faithful to his word and promise.

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PARISH INFORMATION

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

Telephone:

(931) 738-2140

Visit Our Website

www.standrewsparta.com

Please send bulletin changes,
ads or announcements
2 weeks ahead to:
bulletinsacc@gmail.com
or the Parish Co-ordinator



Pastor:

Rev. Father Emmanuel Dirichukwu
pastor@standrewsparta.com

Ritina Jones
Parish Co-Ordinator
parishcoordinator@standrewsparta.com

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

Judy Elliott
Our Home Our Family-
Ministry Coordinator
jroseelliott@gmail.com

PARISH RETIRED DEACONS

Robert "Bob" Graham
Stephen "Steve" AuBuchon



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

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.

Reconciliation:
Father Emmanuel
is available to
hear confessions on
Saturdays from
3:30 to 4 pm
and on
Wednesday from
4:30 pm to 5 pm.

Other confession times
may be arranged
directly with
Father.



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.
Please call the church office
(931) 738-2140

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
931-738-2140

Please visit the parish website:

and sign up to receive the
weekly email newsletter and
parish-wide emails.

www.standrewsparta.com

FIND IT EASY AT THE
BOTTOM OF THE WEBSITE!

Please like and Follow our
church Facebook page:
St AndrewCatholicChurch-Sparta,TN

There is a basket
in the Narthex for
donations of hygiene
products for
distribution
in the
Outreach program.
Please add items
as you see fit!

THE KNIGHT'S CORNER

DO YOU WANT TO BE A KNIGHT OF
COLUMBUS MEMBER?
JUST ASK ONE!



THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LEAD THE
ROSARY THE FIRST SATURDAY AND THE
SECOND SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH!



THEY ALSO HOST BREAKFAST THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
& THE SATURDAY BEFORE.

July Outreach Report

First of all we wish to thank everyone, who has contributed in any way to our Mission.

During the month of July, we received 5 orders from Second Harvest at the cost of \$867. With that amount of food, we distributed 8,743# to 519 hungry people through the Pantry this month! That does not even take into account how many more people Barbara & all our Cooks have fed on Saturday evenings & Sunday mornings! All of the many volunteers made this possible. No one is paid a salary.

We have begun the process of training new persons to Check-in our clients electronically, as they arrive to the Pantry. Soon we will be fully automated & the file cabinet will be stored elsewhere.

We now utilize our new pallet jack on Delivery Thursdays, which contributes to both our safety & efficiency.

Our new Cooks are not only cooking, but learning about the health & safety of Food Service. All this, so our Parish Family can enjoy a meal after Mass, but most importantly to build Community with our Members & others in Sparta.

For those of you who work, and still need a little extra assistance, please see Cathy after Mass or make arrangements at cathy.randolph20@gmail.com.

More info is always available in our Facebook Group: "St Andrew Catholic Church Outreach"



Our August 2026 Outreach Delivery Crew:
Cassandra Cravens, Jennie Huntzinger,
Doris Grimes, Barbara McCarthy, Victor Vale &
Dee Price. Missing from the Photo were:
Mike McCarthy and Rebecca Lapoint



"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." Hebrews 13:16
Farmers' Storehouse is a major sponsor of our bulletin.

TAKE NOTE.

ALL VOLUNTEERS- Everyone who volunteers here at St. Andrew- is required by the diocese to complete an annual Safe Environment training.

All catechists, those involved with altar servers, food pantry volunteers, any one especially directly involved with youth or vulnerable adults, even our handymen!

[VIRTUS@Online
virtusonline.org](http://VIRTUS@Online.virtusonline.org)

It is a simple online series of videos that takes maybe an hour or two of your time, once a year. The module you're looking for is "Protecting God's Children."

Also you may be prompted to do a simple background check once every FIVE years. Follow the prompts in Virtus.

NEW ADULT BIBLE STUDY SERIES TO BEGIN

We begin our journey through Scripture with one of the best known prophets of the Old Testament – Isaiah. We learn from him through "Ignatius Catholic Study Bible" – Isaiah – with commentary, notes and study questions. No written homework. No cost to you. We will begin this journey on:

Saturday, September 12th following mass and supper, from about 5:30 to 6:30, and continue each Saturday.

Please sign up for another amazing bible study with Judy Elliot, on the sheet out in the narthex so she knows how many books to order.



It may seem unfair, at first, to say that wisdom is a virtue – after all, doesn't everyone know one or two people who seem incapable of wisdom?

Well, that depends on what we actually mean when we talk about "wisdom." Wisdom is not mere scholarlyness. It is more than being smart. They say that wisdom comes with experience, and it does – but only if you accept it.

Wisdom, St. Thomas Aquinas wrote, is a gift of the Holy Spirit born of charity and originating in the human will. But it is also connected to the intellect, because the intellect is where we discern between right and wrong based on all we have been taught and all we have experienced (Sum. II-II, 45, Art. 2).

Therefore, we must ask the Holy Spirit for wisdom, and we must make ourselves ready to receive it – remembering always that we cannot recognize it alone.

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Hence, Paul reminds us that God has not forgotten his chosen people even though they disobeyed Him. No, God does not give up on anyone, even those who rejected him. Instead, He continues to wait patiently for all. So, Paul warns us not to be proud or unmerciful to others because of the mercy we have received from Christ. This is because our situation has nothing to do with merits. Instead, we are who we are through the mercy and kindness of God. Indeed, "it is by grace you have been saved, through faith, and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God" (Eph 2:8).

Today's gospel goes further to illustrate the universality of God's mercy. However, the fact that Jesus initially hesitated to listen to the woman perhaps could have been to test her faith. In other words, even though God is ready to show us mercy, he requires something from us: "faith as small as the mustard seed" (Mt 17: 20). An essential requirement for receiving this mercy is the amount of faith we demonstrate in Jesus Christ. The woman demonstrated her faith in Christ. Of course, Christ showed her mercy by healing her daughter. Her persistence is also worth emulating. Despite all odds and what looked like Jesus' refusal to answer her, she did not give up. So, like this Canaanite woman, each one needs God's mercy. We need to demonstrate our faith in Christ, and he will show us his mercy.

Today, Jesus is close to us. So, like this woman, we must cry to Him: "Son of David, take pity on me."

Peace be with you all!

Maranatha!



Any who have the strength and ability are welcome are encouraged to help. Call the office for a call back Monday through Friday 9-noon!

ST. ANDREW MASS SCHEDULE INTENTIONS AND EVENTS

Saturday August 15, 2026

Adoration 3:00- 4:00
Confession 3:30- 4:00

4:00 Mass ALBERT BUCCILLI R.I.P.

Sunday August 16, 2026

Adoration 8-8:30

8:30- Mass **INTENTION: FOR THE PARISH**

Wednesday August 19, 2026

ADORATION: 4:00- 5:00
CONFESSION: 4:30-5:00
MASS 5:00

➔ **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY-
AFTER MASS OR ABOUT 5:30**

Thursday August 20, 2026

MASS- 9:30 a.m.

Saturday August 22, 2026

Adoration 3:00- 4:00
Confession 3:30- 4:00 **JAIME ANN LOFF R.I.P.**

Ministry Schedule August 22/23

Cathy Clayton

Nancy Helmer
Ronnie Cupec



Victor Vale
Vols, Knights

Bristol Faust

John Hawco
Casey Geer
Monica Jicha

Luke Hudachek
Sam Baird
James Hudachek

Ray Jicha, Barbara Leblanc
Knights of Columbus

Month of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Paul & Judy Petrick August 8
Robert & Frances Manthey - August 12
Tony & Michelle Cerrillos August 13
Michael & Annette Popa- August 31

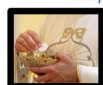
AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

John Costanza - 2
Jennie Huntzinger & Rosa Lida Landsford -3
Taylor Vinatko - 4
Diana Hayes - 6
Mike Villeret - 11
Samantha Faust -22
Ritina Jones - 23
Raquel Marinucci -25
Mitchie Baird &
Mary AuBuchon & Hunter Dowdy - 27
Tony Tersigni & Kendra Vittitoe -29
Nancy Helmer - 30



AUGUST MASS INTENTIONS

James & AnnMarie Fregelette R.I.P. Aug 8
Diane Ashby R.I.P. Aug 12
Antonio Tersigni R.I.P. Aug 13
Albert Buccilli R.I.P. Aug 15
Jaime Ann Loff R.I.P. Aug 22
Dolf Tersigni R.I.P. Aug 26



Daily Readings with Saints & Occasions

August 17-23

Monday August 17, 2026

Ordinary Weekday
1st Reading: 2Corinthians 9: 6-10
Psalm: Psalms 112: 1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9
Alleluia: John 8: 12bc
Gospel: John 12: 24-26

Tuesday August 18, 2026

Jane Frances De Chantal, Married Woman, Religious Founder
1st Reading: Ezekiel 28: 1-10
Psalm: Deuteronomy 32: 26-27ab, 27cd-28, 30, 35cd-36ab
Alleluia: 2Corinthians 8: 9
Gospel: Matthew 19: 23-30

Wednesday August 19, 2026

John Eudes, Priest, Religious Founder
1st Reading: Ezekiel 34: 1-11
Psalm: Psalms 23: 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6
Alleluia: Hebrews 4: 12
Gospel: Matthew 20: 1-16

Thursday August 20, 2026

Bernard, Abbot, Doctor Obligatory Memorial
1st Reading: Ezekiel 36: 23-28
Psalm: Psalms 51: 12-13, 14-15, 18-19
Alleluia: Psalms 95: 8
Gospel: Matthew 22: 1-14

Friday August 21, 2026

Plus X, Pope Obligatory Memorial
1st Reading: Ezekiel 37: 1-14
Psalm: Psalms 107: 2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9
Alleluia: Psalms 25: 4b, 5a
Gospel: Matthew 22: 34-40

Saturday August 22, 2026

Queenhip of the Blessed Virgin Mary Obligatory Memorial
1st Reading: Ezekiel 43: 1-7ab
Psalm: Psalms 85: gab and 10, 11-12, 13-14
Alleluia: Matthew 23: gb, 10b
Gospel: Matthew 23: 1-12

Sunday August 23, 2026

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
1st Reading: Isaiah 22: 19-23
Psalm: Psalms 138: 1-2a, 2bc-3, 6, 8
2nd Reading: Romans 11: 33-36
Alleluia: Matthew 16: 18
Gospel: Matthew 16: 13-20

Prayer Requests

* Mike Blackburn

*Mike Popa

*Catherine Young

*Katie Charfauros

*Payton Newman

*Heidi Holland

* Joan Kupiec

Melissa Cupec

Jim Winton

Danny Gutierrez

Art Gutierrez

Linda McGraw

Elaine Garrett

Diane Barry

Tom Barry

Verne & Bernice Clapp

Clara Magushak

Harry Dennis

Karen Norris

Anna Barry

Andrzej Konwinski

Maryann Kopke

Cathy Clayton

Margaret Massa

Christopher j. Scott

* SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

**May the Souls of all the
Faithful Departed,
Through the Mercy of God
Rest in Peace! AMEN**

