

If you want to be sure you or someone you love needs birthday or wedding anniversary recognition, please contact Sondra at: Spartatn147@gmail.com or



NICK PRALL

- **(**931) 881 6105
- 232 West Spring Street



Everyone in our local community is invited to join us after Mass on Saturday for dinner and after Mass on Sunday for brunch.

These meals are prepared by our dedicated kitchen staff. Once again, ALL ARE WELCOME!

This is the last Sunday www.standrewsparta.com for Religious Education Registration

If you missed it, contact Elizabeth Bates at: religiouseducation@standrewsparta.com

> The food pantry is now only open Wednesday and **Friday**

> > 9:00-12:00





+ Years of Experience Licensed & Insured





829 Valley View Dr. Sparta TN. 38583

Sunday August 17, 2025

The Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time



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 Sunday 8-8:30 am

Reflections

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

On this twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time, the Church encourages us to fight against evil by following the footsteps of Christ, who came to bring "fire" upon the earth in order to purify, transform, and save us from the perils that afflict us.

In the first reading, the prophet Jeremiah suffered grave injustice for the sake of the message he preached. He became a man of dissension for all the land where he preached. This was because his message was so discomforting to the leaders. So, their best option was to conspire and get rid of him.

Although they succeeded for a while, God proved that he was a mighty Savior. He did not allow him to perish. Instead, at his own time and in his way, God came to his aid. The Psalmiststifies: "I waited and waited for the Lord, and he heard my cry." Our God is ever faithful and ready to deliver us in times of difficulty. This is especially when we just and innocent. Hence, we must not give up even if we are crushed.

The second reading from the letter to the Hebrews encourages us to keep running steadily. We are to "focus on Jesus, the author of our faith." This reading encourages us to emulate Christ's zeal and courage during difficult moments in life. Hence, in the face of opposition, we must be firm. Indeed, Jesus Christ will supply the strength and energy we need to do all these.

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

INFORMATION PARISH

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

Telephone:

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

Visit Our 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

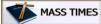
Samantha Faust Parish Co-Ordinator

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

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

Marleen Loff Co-Ordinator Our Home Our Family Outreach StandrewCCOutreach@yahoo.com

Deacon Graham Retired Deacon dnbob80@yahoo.com



Weekend Masses:

Saturday 4:00pm Sunday 8:30am English

Weekday Masses:

Wednesday 5:00 Thursday 9:30

ADORATION

Wednesday 4-4:55 Saturday 3 to 3:55 Sunday 8:00-8:25



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) 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

ww.stancrewsparta.cc
and sign up to receive the
weekly email newsletter and
parish-wide emails.
Please like and Follow our
church Facebook page:
FIND IT EASY AT THE
BOTTOM OF THE WERSITE!

BOTTOM OF THE WEBSITE!

St AndrewCatholicChurch-Sparta,TN



Baptism: lease contact office about the birth of office about your child.

Reconciliation

Marriage: ease contact the Parish office at east 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.

Father Emmanuel is 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.

THE KNIGHTS WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR A WOMAN'S AUXILARY GROUP. SEE SONDRA TERSIGNI FOR INFORMATION. text 931-256-0803

THESE LADIES WILL NOT ONLY HELP THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF OUR PARISH, BUT PERFORM OTHER DUTIES FOR THE PARISH IN VARIOUS WAYS.



THE KNIGHT'S **CORNER**

ENJOY THE BREAKFAST THE FIRST SUNDAY **HOSTED BY AND** PREPARED BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS AFTER THE 8:30 MASS!

The Holy Rosary will be led by the KOC on Saturday, September 6 @ 3:30pm

Sunday September 14 @ 8:00

The next meeting will September 7th after the breakfast.

Any parish members who wish to join the Knights are welcome to talk with any active member to sign up.



Start out the month strong, by praying the holy rosary with the Knights of Columbus.

Our Blessed Mother requests it!

see the schedule in the Knights Corner to the left



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

Parish Happenings





Upper left: Debi Donovan & Mark and Debbie Tylka eating with new friends, Felicia and Chris. Upper Right: Jim Spa sharing a meal with Taylor, Daisey, Octavia and Zhenya Lower picture: A hand-crafted picnic table by: Deputy Grand Knight, Kevin Faust.



Please be kind and help your children in the buffet line. Let's keep the foods out of their hands, until they are at the table!

continued from the front page

The gospel of today has left many wondering what Jesus means by bringing "fire and division upon the earth." This is because we call Him the Prince of peace and the one who unites. Unfortunately, some fundamentalist Christians have employed this passag in a very literal and negative manner. Christ's message is indeed incisive. However, one needs the guidance of the Holy Spirit to understand what the Lord wishes to communicate to us.

Today's gospel reminds us of some events in the old testament where the fire came into play. God used fire and brimstone to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen 19:24). God used fire and hailstorm to punish the Egyptians for their stubbornness (Ex 9:3). The prophet Elijah called down fire from heaven to consume fifty soldiers (2 Kings 1:9-17) and his sacrifice (1Kg 18, 38).

Does Jesus want to destroy us with this same fire? No, the fire that Jesus brings is different. It is the fire of the Holy Spirit, which purifies our souls from evil and saves us. Hence, Saint Cyril of Alexandria writes, "The fire which Christ brings is for men's salvation and profits...The fire here is, the saving message of the Gospel, and the power of its commandments" (Commentary on Luke, 1859, Sermons 89-98).

Hence, this Sunday, Jesus reassures us of his willingness to continue the work of salvation which he started in us. He plans to achieve this through continuous purification. The fire he wishes to bring is that which is very positive and objective. It is for our purification and the consumption of the debris and fabrics of inordinate attachments, immorality, injustice, and corruption in our lives.

Finally, the good news is a cause of division because it contrasts to an unjust society and all that goes contrary to it. Hence, let us implore Christ: "Lord, come to my aid!"

Peace be with you!

And now, a word from our beloved pope!

Maranatha!



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ANDREW MASS SCHEDULE INTENTIONS AND EVENTS

Wednesday August 20, 2025 4:00-5:00 Adoration 4:30-5:00 Confession 5:00 Mass

Thursday August 21, 2025 9:30 Mass

Saturday August 23, 2025 3:00-4:00 Adoration 3:30-4 Confession 4:00 Mass JAMIE LOFF SMITH R.I.P. Dinner ALL ARE WELCOME

Sunday August 24, 2025

8:30- Mass INTENTION: FOR THE PARISH 9:30- Breakfast ALL ARE WELCOME

May the Souls of the

Dearly Departed, Through the Mercy of God, Rest in Peace!

August Birthdays

Rosa Lida Lansford. August 3 Kevin McLeod August 5
Deacon Bob Graham August 7 Ora Graham Randy Hakman August 17 August 19 Samantha Faust August 22 Mark Cisilino August 23 Michele Honeycutt August 2 Dan Clayton August 26 Tony Tersigni August 29



August Anniversaries

Albert and Lorlina Munoz
Paul and Judy Petrick
Fran and Rob Manthey
August 7
August 12 Bruce and Dee Price Mike and Annette Popa

August 15 August 31



TODAY IS THE Last Day for Religious **Education Sign-ups**

<u>Classes Begin September 7th</u>

If you missed the sign-up, Please contact:: Elizabeth Bates religiouseducation@standrewsparta.com

Ministry Schedule

August 23/24

Lector

Sondra Tersigni | Bristol Faust Marleen Loff, Cathy Clayton

Sondra Tersigni John Hawco, Casev Geer

Altar Servers

Jim Spagnolo, Vols, Knights

Lynnleigh Masters, Parker Masters June Acharya, Taj Acharya

Ray Jicha, Don Baird Knights



AUGUST 18-24

Monday August 18 2025 Ordinary Weekday

1st Reading: Judges 2: 11-19 Psalm: Ps 106: 34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab and 44 Alleluia: Matthew 5: 3 Gospel: Matthew 19: 16-22

Tuesday August 19., 2025
John Eudes, Priest, Religious Founder
1st Reading: Judges 6: 11-24a Psalm: Ps 85: 9, 11-12, 13-14 Alleluia: 2Corinthians 8: 9 Gospel: Matthew 19: 23-30

Wednesday August 20, 2025

Bernard, Abbot, Doctor Obligatory Memorial 1st Reading: Judges 9: 6-15 Psalm: Ps 21: 2-3, 4-5, 6-7 Alleluia: Hebrews 4: 12 Gospel: Matthew 20: 1-16

Thursday August 21, 2025 Pius X, Pope Obligatory Memorial 1st Reading: Judges 11: 29-39a Psalm: Ps 40: 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10 Alleluia: Psalms 95: 8 Gospel: Matthew 22: 1-14

Friday August 22 2025 Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary Obligatory Memorial 1st Reading: Ruth 1: 1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22 Psalm: Ps 146: 5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10 Alleluia: Psalms 25: 4b, 5a

Gospel: Matthew 22: 34-40 Saturday August 23, 2025

Optional Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary/ Rose of Lima, Virgin First Reading: Ruth 2: 1-3, 8-11; 4: 13-17 Psalm: Ps 128: 1b-2, 3, 4, 5

Alleluia: Matthew 23: 9b, 10b Gospel: Matthew 23: 1-12 Sunday August 24, 2025 Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time 1st Reading: Isaiah 66: 18-21 Psalm: Ps 117: 1, 2 2nd Reading: Hebrews 12: 5-7, 11-13 Alleluia: John 14: 6

Gospel: Luke 13: 22-30

Danny Gutierrez Linda McGraw Cathy Correll Elaine Garrett Heidi Holland Diane Barry Verne & Bernice Clapp John Barry Clara Magushak Harry Dennis Karen Norris Pat Wilson Andrzej Konwinski Victor Vale

Anita Borski Leonor Roman To add someone to the prayer list email the office at: arishcoordinator@standrewsparta.com

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Names remain one month Unless notified otherwise

MASS INTENTIONS

CURRENT MONTH

Steven Petrick Richie Petrelli R.I.P. Deacon Bob Graham 8-23 Jamie Loff Smith R.I.P.

To put in for a Mass Intention email the office at: parishcoordinator@standrewsparta.com or fill out a mass intention form in the narthex by the double doors

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

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