

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS
REGISTRATION IS NOW CLOSED**
if you missed it, contact
Elizabeth Bates (info page 2)

Classes Begin Today, September 13

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

These are preliminary times.
Religious Education and OCIA class times
may change with changes in Mass times.



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.



**DIOCESE OF
NASHVILLE**

The Bishop's Annual Appeal for Ministries is the lifeline of our Catholic church in the Diocese of Nashville. Your support goes a long way in providing resources for our many thriving ministries in Middle Tennessee. Your 'yes' helps to bring college students closer to Christ through University Catholic, provides excellent formation to our seminarians, creates opportunities for young people to encounter Jesus in transformative ways, helps meet the daily needs of our brothers and sisters, and so much more. Through your generosity, we are able to inspire faith and build a vibrant, Christ-centered community for future generations.

Please help us to meet our goal!

**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.

PANTRY HOURS

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 September 13, 2026



Forgiveness Liberates, And Heals

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



829 Valley View Dr. Sparta TN. 38583

The Twenty- Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Reflections

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

Today is the twenty-fourth Sunday of ordinary time. Last week, the church reminded us of the importance of reconciliation through fraternal dialogue and mutual love. Today she invites us to reflect on forgiveness. It is a vital element of reconciliation and our Christian belief. It is the central message of today's first and gospel readings.

There is a famous saying that to err is human, while to forgive is divine. That is to say, the one who sins acts humanly. This is because it is part of our human attributes to err or sin. On the other hand, the one who forgives acts divinely. This is because to forgive is to participate in an essential attribute and nature of God. That is His divinity. Our God is known for this. "He is compassionate, merciful, loving and forgiving" (Ps 102).

The first reading of today focuses on forgiveness. First, it reminds us that we must forgive others for our prayers to be answered. Second, it presupposes that we are all sinners needing God's forgiveness. So, to be forgiven, we must first forgive others. Therefore, Sirac urges us: "Forgive your neighbor the hurt he does to you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven." This is a call to liberate others to liberate and heal ourselves.

In the second reading, Paul reminds us of something fundamental. "The life and death of each of us influence the other." Also, our ability to forgive has a significant influence on others as well as on ourselves. Hence, it is important to note that forgiveness has a double effect. It is a single-dose medicine that cures one or many persons simultaneously. It liberates the one who is forgiven and heals the one who forgives.

In the gospel, Christ takes forgiveness to a different and practical level. This unfolds in the dialogue between Peter and Christ. Peter asked a theoretical question: "How many times must I forgive my brother?" Jesus answered him most practically: "seventy-seven times." Christ's response reminds us that Christian forgiveness does not have limits. We must forgive all, always and forever, as the prayer of Saint Francisco of Assisi says: "Wherever there is injury (offense or hurt), forgiveness."

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

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
joseelliott@gmail.com

PARISH RETIRED DEACONS

Robert "Bob" Graham
Stephen "Steve" AuBuchon



Baptisms

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

Marriages

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!

THEY ALSO HOST BREAKFAST THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
& DINNER THE SATURDAY BEFORE.
THE MEETING WILL FOLLOW
THE SUNDAY BREAKFAST



THAT IS SEPTEMBER 12 & 13



On days that the Rosary is not led by the
Knights of Columbus, Saturday's Rosary
will be led by others in attendance, so
arrive early with a rosary!



Sondra and Tony Tergigni
visited Ohio,
for Tony's birthday.
Former parishioner, Rosanne
Stafford came for the party
and the next day they
attended the Servants of
Mary Center for Peace, in
Windsor, Ohio.



Meet New Parishioners
Karen & Tommy Crosslin.
They are already active and
helping where they can.
Say hello when you see them!



"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 handyman!

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 BEGINS SATURDAY SEPT 12 5:30

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 Elliott on the sheet out in the narthex so she knows how many books to order.



Please talk to your child about serving as an altar server!

We are also looking to people to serve as a lector or a EMOHC (Extreme Minister of Holy Communion). Training is provided!

We have many people coming into our church. They are registered for the OCIA and so we are also on the look out for people who would like to be a mentor for incoming Catholics. You would be his or her sponsor or Godparent.

continued from the front page

Hence, to demonstrate this, Jesus tells a parable about the kingdom of heaven. Let us reflect on how often we have acted like a wicked servant. He was forgiven an outstanding debt but could not forgive his neighbor a little debt. He was set free, but he jailed his neighbor. The message of this parable is that we must treat others mercifully. We must forgive because God forgives us every day. We must not always hold our neighbors in contempt. Instead, we must consider their situations as God considers our situation always.

Jesus tells us to forgive all and forever. What does it mean to forgive all and forever? First, it does not mean: "I forgive you, but we must go our separate ways; or I forgive you, but I do not want to see you again in my life; or I forgive you, but I will not forget." It means something much more profound. It means restoring unity and believing it is possible to walk together toward a common goal. It means to heal a wound without leaving a scar.

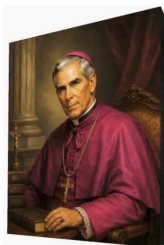
It is essential to add that, at times, one must forgive oneself for the faults committed against self. Endless grieving or guilt conscience because of one's mistakes in life reduces one's quality of life. It hinders both spiritual and material progress. So, we must forgive ourselves, too, to continue living in peace with ourselves.

Finally, he who forgives acts like Christ. So, as we pray today at this Eucharistic celebration: "Forgive us our offenses, as we forgive those who offend us." Let us ask God to help us to be true to these words by living them practically.

Peace be with you all!

Maranatha!

Let's Meet Archbishop Fulton Sheen



Born in 1895 in El Paso, IL, Fulton Sheen was ordained a Catholic priest on September 20, 1919. His talents as a preacher were first seen during his time teaching at The Catholic University of America. In 1926 he began broadcasting Lenten talks on radio stations in New York. He soon began a weekly talk on The Catholic Hour radio program, where he spoke on a range of topics including Mary, the Eucharist, communism, and more. He discussed the relevance of the Gospel in day-to-day Catholic life. He became a Bishop on June 11, 1951. He also began his television series Life is Worth Living that year - the most widely-viewed religious show in the history of television. It was for this show that he won an Emmy Award for Most Outstanding Television Personality in 1953. He was nominated for the same award again in 1954 and for the Best Male Personality-Continuing Performance in 1957. He appeared on the cover of Time Magazine on April 14, 1952. His influence led to countless conversions to Catholicism. In 1966 he became the Bishop of Rochester, a position he resigned in 1969. He spent the remainder of his life preaching and writing. He died on December 9, 1979.



What Miracle is Attributed to Fulton Sheen?

On September 16, 2010 James Fulton Engstrom was declared stillborn. His mother, Bonnie Engstrom, immediately began praying for the intercession of Fulton Sheen, to whom she had been praying the entirety of her pregnancy. Born at home, the young James was rushed to the hospital and doctors determined he could not be revived. 61 minutes after birth his heart began to beat. Despite all the odds, the baby made a full recovery and continues to thrive today. There is no medical explanation for his survival.

Medical experts who advise the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints approved this miracle and attributed it to Venerable Fulton Sheen on March 6, 2014. The Congregation approved it on June 17, 2014.

Unfortunately due to a legal dispute between the Diocese of Peoria and the Archdiocese of New York regarding Sheen's final resting place, the cause was stalled for several years. This was resolved in 2019 and his cause officially reopened. Pope Francis officially attributed the miraculous life of James Fulton Engstrom to Sheen's intercession on July 6, 2019. He is currently Venerable Fulton Sheen.

ST. ANDREW MASS SCHEDULE INTENTIONS AND EVENTS

Saturday September 12, 2026

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

4:00 Mass **MICHAEL BLACKBURN**
SPECIAL INTENTION

Sunday September 13, 2026

Adoration 8-8:30

8:30- Mass **INTENTION: FOR THE PARISH**
Religious Education Classes
begin today at 10:00

Wednesday September 16, 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 September 17, 2026

MASS- 9:30 a.m. **PAT WILSON R.I.P.**

Saturday September 19, 2026

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

4:00 Mass **PAT WILSON R.I.P.**

Ministry Schedule

September 19/20

Cathy Clayton

Marleen Loff
Nancy Helmer



Tony Tersigni
Vols, Knight

Mitchell Baird

Branton Ferris
Monica Jicha
Barbara Leblanc

Lynnleigh Masters
Parker Masters
Taz Acharya
June Acharya

Ray Jicha Kevin Faust
Knights of Columbus

Month of the Immaculate Heart of Mary SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Sep 5- Knights of Columbus Rosary 3:30
Sept 6 Knights of Columbus Rosary 8:00
Sept 12 Adult Bible Study Begins 5:30-6:30
Sept 13 Religious Education Classes Begin
Sept 13 Knights of Columbus Breakfast
Knight of Columbus Meeting 10:00

Bible Study Classes

Men's Class - every Wednesday 5:30 or after Mass
Beginning Sept 12- Adult Every Saturday 5:30 - 6:30

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Deacon Steve & Mary AuBuchon Sept 7
Michael & Jordyn Tamez Sept 9
David & Cheryl Sept 9
Mark & Mary Cisilio Sept 15
James & Samantha Todaro Sept 18
Ron & Joan Heim Sept 22

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Tim Brennon -4 Michael Tamez -5
David Bresin - 9
Elizabeth Vittitoes - 11
Branton Ferris - 12
James Hudachek - 13
Nathan Honeycutt - 14 ---- Bethany Cullen- 14
Fran Manthey - 17
Craig Kozeniesky - 20
Charles Todaro - 21
Marivic Hawco -26
Katie CharFauros -27
Lorraine Herel -29

SEPTEMBER MASS INTENTIONS

KENT SORENSON R.I.P. SEPTEMBER 2
JAMES MITCHELL R.I.P. SEPTEMBER 16
PAT WILSON R.I.P. SEPTEMBER 17
CLARA MAGUSHAK R.I.P. SEPTEMBER 19

Daily Readings with Saints & Occasions Prayer Requests

September 14-20

Monday September 14, 2026

Exaltation of the Holy Cross Feast

1st Reading: Numbers 21: 4b-9
Psalm: Psalms 78: 1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38
2nd Reading: Philippians 2: 6-11
Gospel: John 3: 13-17

Tuesday September 15, 2026

Our Lady of Sorrows Obligatory Memorial

1st Reading: 1Corinthians 12: 12-14, 27-31a
Psalm: Psalms 100: 1b-2, 3, 4, 5
Gospel: John 19: 25-27 or Luke 2: 33-35

Wednesday September 16, 2026

Cornelius, Pope, Martyr, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyr
Obligatory Memorial

1st Reading: 1Corinthians 12: 31 - 13: 13
Psalm: Psalms 33: 2-3, 4-5, 12 and 22
Alleluia: John 6: 63c, 68c
Gospel: Luke 7: 31-35

Thursday September 17, 2026

Robert Bellarmine, Bishop, Religious, Doctor

1st Reading: 1Corinthians 15: 1-11
Psalm: Psalms 118: 1b-2, 16ab-17, 28
Alleluia: Matthew 11: 28
Gospel: Luke 7: 36-50

Friday September 18, 2026

Ordinary Weekday

1st Reading: 1Corinthians 15: 12-20
Psalm: Psalms 17: 1bcd, 6-7, 8b and 15
Alleluia: Matthew 11: 25
Gospel: Luke 8: 1-3

Saturday September 19, 2026

Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary/

Januarius, Bishop, Martyr

1st Reading: 1Corinthians 15: 35-37, 42-49
Psalm: Psalms 56: 10c-12, 13-14
Alleluia: Luke 8: 15
Gospel: Luke 8: 4-15

Sunday September 20, 2026

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Isaiah 55: 6-9
Psalm: Psalms 145: 2-3, 8-9, 17-18
2nd Reading: Philippians 1: 20c-24, 27a
Alleluia: Acts 16: 14b
Gospel: Matthew 20: 1-16a

** 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 & Tom Barry

John Barry

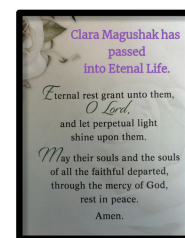
Verne & Bernice Clapp

Harry Dennis Karen Norris

Anna Barry

Maryann Kopke Margaret Massa

Christopher j. Scott



Mass will be for her intention
on Saturday, September 19
Please remember her at this Mass!

There will be a visitation, this Saturday, the 12th
from 10-1
at Hunter Funeral Home
and a memorial service at 1

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