



Welcome to Saint Stephen's – If you are new or visiting today, please know that we are so glad that you are here, and that you are welcome in this community of faith. S. Stephen's is an Episcopal parish in the Diocese of Rhode Island and is part of the worldwide Anglican Communion. Located in the midst of Brown University, it serves the communities of Providence and beyond. S. Stephen's has stood within the Anglo-Catholic tradition since its founding, and so the Mass or the Eucharist is at the center of our common life, with ancient and timeless ceremonial used to draw attention to the Living God in our very midst. We strive to be a diverse community and come from many various backgrounds, while united in One Body through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Fr. Benjamin

The Rev. Benjamin Straley, Rector

THIS COMING WEEK AT S. STEPHEN'S

Monday 31 January

Feria

Evening Prayer 5:30

Low Mass 6:00

Friday 4 February

Cornelius the Centurion

Noonday Prayer & Low Mass 12:00

Tuesday 1 February

Brigid of Kildare, 523

Noonday Prayer & Low Mass 12:00

Saturday 5 February

The Martyrs of Japan, 1597

Morning Prayer 9:30

Low Mass 10:00

Holy Rosary 10:30

Wednesday 2 February

**THE PRESENTATION OF
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
IN THE TEMPLE**

Evening Prayer 5:30

Low Mass 6:00

Next Sunday 6 February

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Morning Prayer and Low Mass 8 am

Sunday School 9:55 am

Solemn Mass 10 am

Thursday 3 February

Anskar, Archbishop & Missionary, 865

Noonday Prayer & Low Mass 12:00

Executive Committee 7:00 (via Zoom)

**no coffee hours until
pandemic wave subsides*

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Prayers have been requested for: Charles and Sandra Calverley, Fr. Norman Catir, Ann Dake, Katy Gilchrist, Fr. Harrington Gordon, Richard Hogarth, Beverly Myers, Beth Shirley, Rhoda Steinhart, Christopher Whittingham, and for the family of David Morgan, departed uncle of Greg Goins.

Birthdays this week: Nate Callahan (2/1); Chuck O'Boyle (2/2); William Kinloch (2/4).

The faithful departed: *Recently departed:* Vera Metcalf, David Morgan. *Year's Mind:* Mary L. Starks (2/5).

In the **Anglican Cycle of Prayer**, we are asked to pray for (1/30) The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean; (1/31) The Diocese of Kano – The Church of Nigeria; (2/1) The Diocese of Kansas; (2/2) The Diocese of Western Kansas; (2/3) The Diocese of Kanyakumari – The Church of South India; (2/4) The Diocese of Kapoeta – The Episcopal Church of South Sudan; (2/5) The Diocese of Kapsabet – The Anglican Church of Kenya. In the **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer**, we are asked to pray for seminaries and schools for deacons.

AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT (first made in Friday e-news)

Dear Friends,

After 29 years of unwavering, faithful, and matchless service, our esteemed and beloved Organist and Choirmaster, James Busby, has decided to retire from his work at S. Stephen's at the end of June. Soon after I was called as your new Rector in the summer of 2020, James reached out to me over the phone to introduce himself. At the end of the call he said "Well, is there anything else I can do for you?" Knowing that he had been there for many years, I said without pausing "Yes -- don't retire any time soon!" However, I knew this day might come sooner than later.

James does not do anything by half-measures. As hard as he puts the choir through their paces, he is also fiercely loyal as a friend and colleague. He knows instinctively how much of a ministry the music program is, and there are many people now active in the life of S. Stephen's Church who came to it initially through the choir. I was profoundly touched when I was going through the Parish Register in my first year and saw the entries of two baptisms -- both choir members -- and James as their sponsor.

James has been both a wonderful colleague to me and a cherished friend: I cannot count the number of times in the weeks following my disastrous injury that James came to the house to take me to the church on Sundays or during the work week, or arranged for a choir member to pick me up when he could not. As to his contributions to the musical life of our parish and in Boston, the esteem and affection in which he is held by all those who have worked with him says far more than any words of mine can. I look forward to celebrating his time among us and showering him with accolades in the coming months. His final Sunday with the Choir will be on the feast of Corpus Christi, and on that day we will celebrate his time here with a special service and festive reception.

Until that time, please join me in expressing gratitude and affection for all James' years of service to our parish, and for the sublime moments of transcendent beauty we've experienced through his music.

Yours, faithfully,
Fr. Benjamin