

# THE KALENDAR

S. Stephen's Church  
in Providence

FEAST OF DEDICATION

17 September 2023

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LOW MASS 8:10 AM

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## MORNING PRAYER

*Please stand when the bell is rung.*

*The Officiant may begin with a sentence of Scripture.*

*Officiant* ✠ O Lord, open thou our lips.

*People* **And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, :  
and to the Holy Ghost;

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :  
world without end. Amen.**

VENITE – *Psalm 95:1-7*

*Antiphon:* Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:

**O come, let us adore him.**

**O come, let us sing unto the Lord; \***

**let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.**

**Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \***

**and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.**

**For the Lord is a great God, \***

**and a great King above all gods.**

**In his hand are all the corners of the earth, \***

**and the strength of the hills is his also.**

**The sea is his, and he made it, \***

**and his hands prepared the dry land.**

**O come, let us worship and fall down, \***

**and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

**For he is the Lord our God, \***

**and we are the people of his pasture**

**and the sheep of his hand.**

**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; \***

**let the whole earth stand in awe of him.**

**For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth, \***

**and with righteousness to judge the world**

**and the peoples with his truth.**

*Antiphon:* Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:

**O come, let us adore him.**

**PSALM 84:1–7** *Quam dilecta!* *Read responsively by whole verse.*

**O how amiable are thy dwellings : thou LORD of hosts!**

My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the LORD :  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

**Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, and the swallow a nest where she may  
lay her young : even thy altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.**

Blessed are they that dwell in thy house :  
they will be always praising thee.

**Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee :  
in whose heart are thy ways.**

Who going through the vale of misery use it for a well :  
and the pools are filled with water.

**They will go from strength to strength :  
and unto the God of gods appeareth every one of them in Sion.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :  
and to the Holy Ghost.

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :  
world without end. Amen.**

**FIRST READING** – *Genesis 28:10–17*

Jacob left Beer-sheba, and went toward Haran. And he came to a certain place, and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven; and behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, “I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your descendants; and your descendants shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and by you and your descendants shall all the families of the earth bless themselves. Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done that of which I have spoken to you.” Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, “Surely the LORD is in this place; and I did not know it.” And he was afraid, and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**BENEDICTUS ES, DOMINE** (*Please stand*)

Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our fathers; \*  
**praised and exalted above all for ever.**

**Blessed art thou for the Name of thy Majesty; \***  
**praised and exalted above all for ever.**

**Blessed art thou in the temple of thy holiness; \***  
**praised and exalted above all for ever.**

**Blessed art thou that beholdest the depths,**

and dwellest between the Cherubim; \*  
praised and exalted above all for ever.  
Blessed art thou on the glorious throne of thy kingdom; \*  
praised and exalted above all for ever.  
Blessed art thou in the firmament of heaven; \*  
praised and exalted above all for ever.  
Blessed art thou, O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; \*  
praised and exalted above all for ever.

#### THE SUFFRAGES *(Please remain standing)*

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy Spirit.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

**R. And grant us thy salvation.**

V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

**R. And make thy chosen people joyful.**

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

**R. For only in thee can we live in safety.**

V. Lord, keep this nation under thy care;

**R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

V. Let thy way be known upon earth;

**R. Thy saving health among all nations.**

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

**R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

**R. And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.**

#### A COLLECT FOR SUNDAYS

O God, who makest us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of thy Son our Lord: Grant us this day such blessing through our worship of thee, that the days to come may be spent in thy favor; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

#### INTERCESSIONS

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer**

**Intercession Paper for the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament**

**Intercession Paper for the Guild of All Souls**

✠ May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace, and rise in glory. **Amen.**

#### CONCLUDING VERSICLES

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy Spirit.**

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

✠ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.** *2 Corinthians 13:14*

## LOW MASS

### THE OPENING RITE

#### OPENING ACCLAMATION *(Standing)*

*Celebrant* ✠ Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

#### COLLECT FOR PURITY *(Standing)*

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### SUMMARY OF THE LAW *(Standing)*

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

#### KYRIE ELEISON *(Standing)*

Kyrie eleison. **Kyrie eleison.** Kyrie eleison.

**Christe eleison.** Christe eleison. **Christe eleison.**

Kyrie eleison. **Kyrie eleison.** Kyrie eleison.

#### GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory be to God on high,

**and on earth peace, good will towards men.**

**We praise thee, we bless thee,**

**we worship thee,**

**we glorify thee,**

**we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,**

**O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;**

**O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,**

**that takest away the sins of the world,**

**have mercy upon us.**

**Thou that takest away the sins of the world,**

**receive our prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,**

**have mercy upon us.**

**For thou only art holy;**

thou only art the Lord;  
thou only, O Christ,  
with the Holy Ghost,  
✠ art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**COLLECT OF THE DAY** *(Please remain standing)*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O Almighty God, to whose glory we celebrate the dedication of this house of prayer: We give thee thanks for the fellowship of those who have worshiped in this place; and we pray that all who seek thee here may find thee, and be filled with thy joy and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**EPISTLE READING** – *1 Peter 2:1–9*

Put away all malice and all guile and insincerity and envy and all slander. Like newborn babes, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation; for you have tasted the kindness of the Lord. Come to him, to that living stone, rejected by men but in God's sight chosen and precious; and like living stones be yourselves built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, that you may declare the wonderful deeds of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL** – *Matthew 7:13–14, 24–25*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* ✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People* **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus said, "Enter by the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is easy, that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard, that leads to life, and those who find it are few. Every one then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house upon the rock; and the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat upon that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock.

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

The Rev'd Fr. Benjamin Straley

**NICENE CREED** *(Please stand)*

I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
and of all things visible and invisible;  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father;  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation  
came down from heaven,  
*and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,*  
*and was made man;*  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried;  
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;  
and he shall come again, with glory,  
to judge both the quick and the dead;  
whose kingdom shall have no end.  
And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,  
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;  
who spake by the Prophets.  
And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,  
✠ and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*(Genuflect or  
bow)*

#### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** *(Please remain standing)*

*Celebrant*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess thy Name may be united in thy truth,  
live together in thy love, and reveal thy glory in the world.

**V.** Lord, in thy mercy

**R.** Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and  
peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

**V.** Lord, in thy mercy

**R.** Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as thine own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to thine honor and glory.

V. Lord, in thy mercy

R. **Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

V. Lord, in thy mercy

R. **Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of thy salvation.

V. Lord, in thy mercy

R. **Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have ✠ died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Stephen, our patron, and with all thy saints in thine eternal kingdom.

V. Lord, in thy mercy

R. **Hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant*

O God, whom year by year we praise for the dedication of this church; Hear, we beseech thee, the prayers of thy people, and grant that whosoever shall worship before thee in this place, may obtain thy merciful aid and protection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **CONFESSION OF SIN** (*Kneel after exhortation*)

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*Celebrant and People*

**Almighty God,**

**Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
maker of all things, judge of all men:**

**We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness,  
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,  
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,  
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.**

**We do earnestly repent,  
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;  
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,  
the burden of them is intolerable.**

**Have mercy upon us,  
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and grant that we may ever hereafter  
serve and please thee in newness of life,**

to the honor and glory of thy Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### THE PEACE

*Celebrant* The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

### OFFERTORY PRAYERS *(Please be seated)*

*Celebrant* Blessed art thou, Lord God of all creation; through thy goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth hath given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

*People* **Blessed be God for ever.**

*Celebrant* Blessed art thou, Lord God of all creation; through thy goodness we have this wine to offer: fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

*People* **Blessed be God for ever.**

### ORATE, FRATRES *(Please stand)*

*Celebrant* Pray, brothers and sisters, that this my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the Almighty Father.

*People* **May the Lord receive this Sacrifice at thy hands, to the praise and glory of his Name, both to our benefit, and that of all his holy Church.**

### SURSUM CORDA & PREFACE *(Standing)*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

*People* **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest; in whom we are built up as living stones of a holy temple, that we might offer before thee a sacrifice of praise and prayer which is holy and pleasing in thy sight. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,



**SANCTUS ET BENEDICTUS** *(Standing)*

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:  
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**

✠ **Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER** *(Kneeling or standing)*

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat,

THIS IS MY BODY,  
WHICH IS GIVEN FOR YOU.  
Do this in remembrance of me."

✠

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this;

FOR THIS IS MY BLOOD OF THE NEW TESTAMENT  
WHICH IS SHED FOR YOU, AND FOR MANY,  
FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS.  
Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

✠

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy ✠ grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us,

and we in him. And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.  
**AMEN.**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER** *(Kneeling)*

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the  
glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

#### **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD** *(Kneeling)*

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast.**

#### **AGNUS DEI** *(Kneeling)*

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
grant us thy peace.**

#### **PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS**

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the Flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his Blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his Body, and our souls washed through his most precious Blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION: ECCE AGNUS DEI

*Celebrant* ✠ Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him that taketh away the sins of the world.

*People* **Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof, but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.**

## THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Eucharist at the Lord's Table. Gluten-free wafers are available. If you are not receiving, you are invited to come forward for a blessing (indicated by crossing your arms over your chest). If you have not been baptized, and find yourself drawn to Jesus Christ and life in him, please let one of our clergy know. We would be honored to have a conversation with you about the possibility of baptism, or any other questions. Baptism and life in the Body of Christ is open to all.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *(Please kneel)*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, **we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

## BLESSING

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy Spirit.**

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, an of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, ✠ the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## DISMISSAL *(Please stand)*

*Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

# S. STEPHEN'S CHURCH

PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

FOUNDED 1837

## VESTRY

Thomas Bledsoe, *Senior Warden*

Robert Rose, *Junior Warden*

Gregory DePardo, *Treasurer*

Molly Bledsoe Ellis, *Clerk*

Karl Benziger

Lynne deBenedette

Jennifer DePardo

Muriel Jobbers

Ruth Oliver Jolliffe

Julia Steiny

Louis Verdelotti

## CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev'd Fr. Benjamin Straley, *Rector*

The Rev'd Fr. William Locke, *Assisting Priest*

The Rev'd Fr. Michael A. Pearson, *Assisting Priest*

The Rev'd Mtr. Veronica Tierney, *Assisting Priest*

L. Graham Schultz, *Organist & Choirmaster*

Andrew Lonardo, *Sexton*

Kiersten Marek, *Nursery Childcare Provider*

James Busby, *Organist & Choirmaster Emeritus*