

Saint Stephen Parish

SaintStephenSF.org | Church 415.681.2444

StStephenSchoolSF.org | School 415.664.8331

The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner
who went out at dawn
to hire laborers for his vineyard.

Matthew 20:1



Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 20 2026

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

First Reading

Isaiah 55:6-9

God's ways are far beyond the ways
of human beings.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalms 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

God is near to those who call upon
him.

Second Reading

Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a

Paul tells the Philippians to live for
Christ.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 20:1-16

In the parable of the workers in the
vineyard, Jesus teaches about God's
generous mercy.

Daily Mass: Mondays thru Saturdays 8:00 am.

Vigil Mass Saturday: 4:30 pm

Sunday Masses: 8:00 am | 10:30 am | 6:30 pm

Reconciliation: Saturday 3:30 - 4:20 pm or 30 minutes before each Sunday Mass



Getting to Know St. Stephen Together: A Parish That Prays for Its Priests

Dear Parishioners of St. Stephen,

Peace and blessings to all of you!

Pastor's Corner

This coming week, from September 21 to 24, the priests of the Archdiocese of San Francisco will gather for our convocation at Asilomar, Pacific Grove. It will be a time for prayer, reflection, fraternity, renewal, and conversation about our shared ministry in the Church. As I prepare to join my brother priests these days, I am reminded that the life of a priest is always connected to the life of the people he serves. A priest does not walk alone. He is supported by the prayers, encouragement, patience, and faith of the parish community. Here at St. Stephen, I have already experienced your kindness and support in many ways. Even though I am here only for six months, I continue to be grateful for the opportunity to pray with you, celebrate the sacraments with you, and walk with you in faith.

The convocation is also a reminder that priests, like everyone else, need moments of renewal. We need time to pray, listen, learn, rest, and be strengthened, so that we can return to our parishes with renewed hearts and deeper love for God's people. So this week, I ask you to please pray for all the priests of our Archdiocese. Pray that we may be faithful, humble, joyful, compassionate, and courageous shepherds. Pray also for more vocations to the priesthood, religious life, and committed Christian service.

As we continue getting to know St. Stephen together, may we also grow as a parish that supports one another in prayer. **The priest prays for the people, and the people pray for the priest.** That is a beautiful part of being one family in Christ.

A sincere presence. A kind word. A prayerful heart. These simple things can become doorways of grace.

God bless you all,

Fr. Marvin Felipe
Parish Administrator

Mass Intentions 2027

The 2027 Mass Intention Book will open on **October 1st**. To help accommodate as many parishioners as possible, requests will initially be accepted for the **first six months of 2027 only**, and there will be a limit of **eight Mass intentions per parishioner**.

If you would like to schedule a Mass intention, please visit the parish office in person. We encourage parishioners to submit their requests early, as preferred dates may fill quickly. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact the **Parish Office at 415-681-2444**.

We are happy to assist you.

Sunday Collections September 13, 2026

\$ 4,651.00 Sunday Offertory
\$ 2,195.62 Online Giving

\$ 1,264.00 Second Collection
(Latin America)

Thank you for your donation!

**Donate online to
St. Stephen's Parish**



Mass Intentions

Monday, Sep 21	8:00 am - Colin Luu - Birthday By: Raquel Amora Malig
Tuesday, Sep 22	8:00 am -
Wednesday, Sep 23	8:00 am - Dr. Albert Friezschke - † By: Friezschke Family
Thursday, Sep 24	8:00 am - Cecelia Prete - † By: Costa Langley Family
Friday, Sep 25	8:00 am - Yvette Labiaga - Birthday By: Roy Amora
Saturday, Sep 26	8:00 am - Margaux Opena-Birthday By: Zeny Amora Opena 4:30 pm - Jacqueline M Thompson-† By: Bautista-Thompson Family
Sunday, Sep 27	8:00 am - Rey Aseron - † By: Emma Sagala 10:30 am - People of the Parish 6:30 pm - Roy Amora - Birthday By: Maria Amora

Remembering sick Family & Friends

Please pray for the sick and homebound of our community and for all those written in our book of the sick. May they know the healing touch of Jesus.

Amanda Arenas, Marie Bachand, Larry Barbieri, Ana Caballero, Araceli Caparas, Sean Chan, Julie Burton, Tony Devincenzi, Genevieve Dy, Kenneth Fambrini, George Farrales, Eden Finn, Larry & Carmelita Gallagher, Mark Gutierrez, Robert Liam, Mary MacKinny, Tresa Matthews, Glenda Miller, Antoinette Mishirsky, Nestor & Nelson Plondaya, Byron Petty, Joel Rivera, Vida Solomon, Al Vicente Jr, Michelle Vicente, Gwendolyn Walsh, Michelle Weeks, Perry Young, Jim Thompson, Jovita & Richard Thompson, Franz Tittiger, Daniel W., Alex & Marie.

Looking for a Perfect Venue?

Our 20,000 Sq.Ft.
Parish Event Center,
Donworth Hall & Gym
is available to rent



Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel continues the story that began in last week's Gospel. Simon Peter was called the "rock" upon which Jesus would build his Church, and yet Peter continues to show the limitations of his understanding of Jesus' identity. Now that the disciples have acknowledged that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus confides in them the outcome of his ministry: he must suffer and die in Jerusalem to be raised on the third day. Peter rejects this prediction, and Jesus rebukes him severely, calling him "Satan." In opposing this aspect of Jesus' mission, Peter shows that he is no longer speaking based on the revelation from God but as a human being. Jesus then teaches all of the disciples about the difficult path of discipleship: to be Christ's disciple is to follow in his way of the cross.

Peter could not yet understand what it meant to call Jesus the Messiah. It is unlikely that the other disciples understood any better. Messianic expectations were a common aspect of first-century Judaism. Under Roman occupation, many in Israel hoped and prayed that God would send a Messiah to free the Jews from Roman oppression. The common view was that the Messiah would be a political figure, a king that would free Israel from Roman rule. This is perhaps what Peter envisioned when he was led to recognize Jesus as the Messiah. In this passage, however, Jesus is beginning to teach his disciples that he would be the Messiah in a different way.

Jesus would be more like the suffering servant described by the prophet Isaiah than the political liberator. Those who would be Jesus' disciples would be called to a similar life of service. Perhaps this is what Peter feared most in Jesus' prediction of his Passion. He whom Jesus had called "rock" would also be called upon to offer himself in sacrifice and service to others. Christian leaders today are still called to sacrifice and serve others as Jesus did.

St. Stephen Parish 2026 – 2027 Pastoral Staff

Rev. Marvin Felipe - Administrator

Fr.Marvin@SaintStephenSF.org

Father Raphael Laizer - Campus Ministry

Fr.Raphael@SaintStephenSF.org

Rev. David Schunk, S.T.L. - Pastor (Sabbatical)

Fr.Schunk@SaintStephenSF.org

Rev. Mr. Manuel “Olet” Abad
Permanent Deacon

Sharon McCarthy Allen - Principal

Office@sfStStephenSchool.org

Shay Ingelfinger - Event Center Coordinator

Shay@SaintStephenSF.org

Mary Molly Mullaney - Faith Formation

FaithFormation@SaintStephenSF.org

Anthony A. Renteria - Athletics Director

StStephenAthleticsSF@gmail.com

Ed Prete - Bulletin Editor

E.Prete@SaintStephenSF.org

Organization/Ministry - Contact Person

Altar Servers - Giovanna Hrvatin

Altar Society - Joan Leehane

Caritas - Nellie Hizon

Eucharistic Lay Ministry (Word & Eucharist)

-Mary Molly Mullaney

Fifty Plus Club - Helga D'Arcy

Finance Council - Laura Birsinger

Front Ofc Lead Volunteer - Fely Boquiren

Grief Support - Clergy

Head Sacristan - Ed Quan

Liturgy Committee - Pastor

Marriage Preparation - Clergy

Men's Club - Patrick Kennedy

Newman Campus Ministry - Fr Raphael Laizer

Parish Council - Vicky Francisco

Religious Education - Mary Molly Mullaney

(Faith Formation, OCIA, Children's Liturgy)

Ushers - Pastor

Women's Guild - Vicky Kamahele & Jodi Farra



The 50+ Club meets on the first Monday of each month, or on the second Monday when a holiday falls on the first Monday.

Enjoy an afternoon of Bingo, Bridge, tasty snacks, and great company.

Contact St. Stephen Parish Office - (415) 681-2444.

Interested in Becoming Catholic?

If you or someone you know is interested in the Catholic faith, or has been baptized but has not received First Communion or Confirmation, contact Mary Molly in the parish office to learn more about our OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) program.

OCIA welcomes adults who are exploring the faith, seeking to learn more, and/or preparing to receive the Sacraments.

Mary Molly Mullaney | (415) 681-2444 ext. 3
FaithFormation@SaintStephenSF.org

Faith Formation for Children Registration is now open

Our parish offers religious education for children in our Faith Formation Program for students who attend public schools or non-Catholic private schools.

Children in grades 1st thru 8th meet Monday afternoons, 4:15-5:30 pm, during the school year. We also prepare students to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation (8th grade).

Please reach out to Mary Molly Mullaney in the parish for more information

email: FaithFormation@SaintStephenSF.org