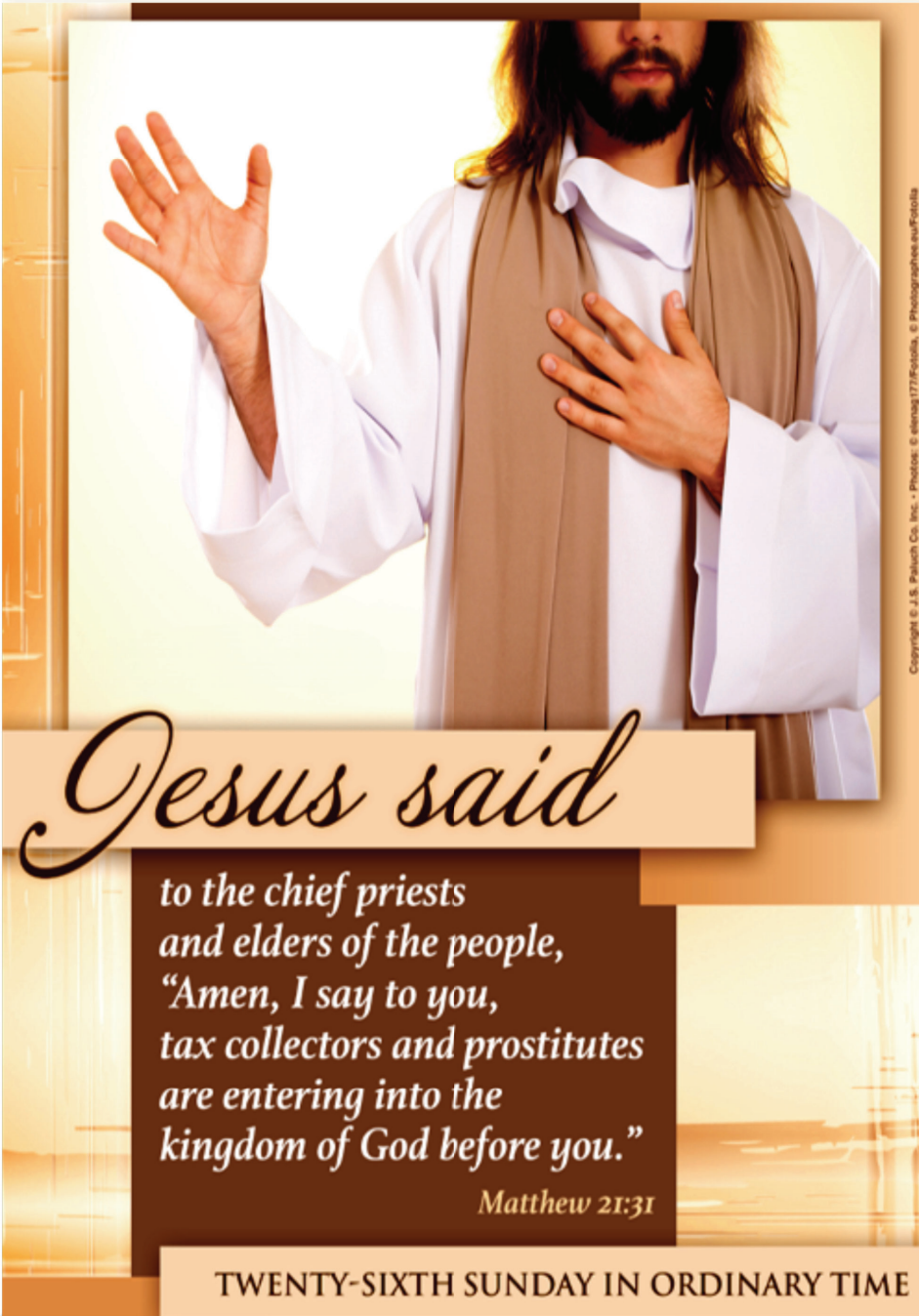


Saint Stephen Parish

SaintStephenSF.org | Church 415.681.2444

StStephenSchoolSF.org | School 415.664.8331



September 27, 2026
The Twenty-Sixth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

First Reading

Ezekiel 18:25-28

It is possible to turn from sin and preserve one's life.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 25:4-9

A prayer to God for mercy.

Second Reading

Philippians 2:1-11 (shorter form Philippians 2:1-5)

Be like Christ who humbled himself and was exalted by God.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 21:28-32

Jesus poses a question to the chief priests and elders on the meaning of obedience.

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 Says Yes

Dear Parishioners of St. Stephen,

Peace and blessings to all of you!

As we continue getting to know St. Stephen together, I would like to reflect this week on the simple but powerful word: yes.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells the story of two sons. One says no to his father, but later changes his mind and goes. The other says yes, but does not follow through. The lesson is clear: faith is not only about what we say, but how we live.

In parish life, our "yes" to God can take many forms. It may be a yes to prayer, a yes to forgiveness, a yes to serving, a yes to helping our parish, a yes to coming back to Church, or a yes to becoming more involved in the life of the community.

Sometimes our yes is big. Sometimes it is very small. But every sincere yes to God matters.

As your Parish Administrator, I continue to be grateful for the many ways I see people saying yes here at St. Stephen: through worship, service, generosity, school and family life, volunteer work, and quiet acts of kindness.

One concrete way we can say "yes" as a parish is through our support of the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal. If you have already contributed, thank you very much for your generosity. If you have not yet done so, I kindly invite you to prayerfully consider making a gift. When many people help, the burden becomes lighter, and together we can reach our parish goal.

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

God bless you all,

Fr. Marwin Felipe

Parish Administrator

Register today and become part of our St. Stephen Parish family!
You may register by scanning the St. Stephen QR code or filling out the form below.

Join Our St. Stephen Parish Family

Do you regularly attend Mass at St. Stephen but are not yet registered? We warmly invite you to register. Please return this form in the collection basket or to the parish office.

Name: _____ Email: _____

Phone: _____ Address: _____

☐ New registration

☐ I would like envelopes

☐ Update my information

☐ Ministry/volunteer information

Welcome to St. Stephen Parish! Contact us - info@saintstephensf.org



Mass Intentions

Monday, Sep 28	8:00 am - Rod & Sharon Montgomery - † By: Jessica Montgomery
Tuesday, Sep 29	8:00 am - Gael Opena - Healing By: Zeny Amora Opena
Wednesday, Sep 30	8:00 am - Norman Jerome Dy - Spec. Int. By: Dy Family
Thursday, Oct 1	8:00 am - Yelba Delgado - † By: Hugo Delgado
Friday, Oct 2	8:00 am - Geraldine Webb - † By: Liam & Mary Frost
Saturday, Oct 3	8:00 am - Cecelia Prete - † By: Francis Prete Family 4:30 pm - Denis O'Connor - † By: Rose O'Connor
Sunday, Oct 4	8:00 am - Paul Kilmartin - † By: Davey Family 10:30 am - People of the Parish 6:30 pm - Roger T. DeRuna - † By: Ninna Amora

Mass Intentions 2027

The 2027 Mass Intention Book will open on **October 2nd**. 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.

Looking for the perfect place for your next event?

Our 20,000 sq.ft. Parish Event Center, Donworth Hall & Gym is Available for Rent



Contact Shay at 415.681.2444 x2
email: DonworthEvents@SaintStephen.org



REPRESENT US AT

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2027

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

GRAND PRIZE
ROUND-TRIP AIRFARE
ALL-INCLUSIVE
PILGRIMAGE PACKAGE
WORLD YOUTH DAY 2027
AUGUST 1 – 10, 2027

**FILIPINO AMERICAN CATHOLIC
YOUNG ADULTS (AGES 18-24)**

EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEECH CONTEST

CONTEST HIGHLIGHTS
WHEN: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2026
TIME: 8:30 AM – 2:00 PM
WHERE: STAR OF THE SEA PARISH HALL
4420 GEARY BLVD., SAN FRANCISCO

PILGRIMAGE PACKAGE INCLUDES
♦ ROUND TRIP AIR FARE
♦ ACCOMMODATIONS /TRANSPORTATION
♦ WYD REGISTRATION FEES

APPLICATION DEADLINE
MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026

FOR DETAILS
♦ SCAN THE QR CODE
♦ TEXT/CALL: SHERRY (415) 521-6534
♦ EMAIL: FMCBWYD2027@GMAIL.COM

Sponsored by

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, Genevie 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.

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



Join us **Monday, October 5, 2026**, for the monthly meeting of the 50+ Club!

We welcome all St. Stephen seniors, and guests from outside the Parish.

Enjoy an afternoon of Bingo, Bridge, delicious snacks, and great fellowship.

We are currently looking to bolster our bridge group so definitely stop by if you like to play.

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

Sunday Collections September 20, 2026

\$ 3,993.65 Sunday Offertory
\$ 1,974.77 Online Giving

\$ 1,713.65 Second Collection
(Priest Retirement Fund)

Thank you for your donation!

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



Background on the Gospel Reading

The context for today's Gospel is the mounting tension between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders. Jesus has entered Jerusalem and overturned the money changers' tables in the Temple. Jesus has caught the attention of the religious authorities; the chief priests and elders question Jesus about the source of his authority. Jesus refuses to name for these religious leaders the source of his authority. Instead, he questions the priests and elders through the parable we hear in today's Gospel. The answer given by the religious leaders is correct, but it convicts them for their failure to heed the call of John the Baptist and for their inability to recognize the Kingdom of God.

The situation Jesus poses is rather straightforward. Given the same task by their father, one son asserts his disobedience in words, but then obeys in his actions; the second son obeys with his words, but disobeys in his actions. The question that Jesus poses is pointed and direct: Which son did what the father wanted? All would agree that "actions speak louder than words" and that even if his words were disobedient, the son who did the work as ordered did the father's will.

Jesus' conclusion is also direct. The chief priests and elders, the ones who speak most often about God, did not act accordingly. They did not respond to the message of repentance announced by John the Baptist with a change of heart. Instead, John's message was heeded by those one would not expect to repent—tax collectors, prostitutes, and other sinners. Because of their actions, these sinners will enter the Kingdom of God ahead of the religious leaders.

Jesus could ask us the same question. Do our words indicate our obedience to God? If not our words, do our actions? God desires a full conversion of heart, that our actions (and our words as well) will give evidence of our love for God.