

Saint Stephen Parish

SaintStephenSF.org | Church 415.681.2444

StStephenSchoolSF.org | School 415.664.8331



October 4, 2026

**Solemnity of St. Francis of Assisi
Principal Patron of the
Archdiocese of San Francisco**

First Reading

Sirach 3:17-24

God favors those who live with humility
and do not seek what is beyond them.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 16

The Lord is our refuge and inheritance,
leading us along the path to everlasting joy.

Second Reading

Galatians 6:14-18

St. Paul boasts only in the Cross of Christ,
through which we become a new creation.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 11:25-30

Jesus invites the weary to come to him and
find rest by learning from his gentle and
humble heart.

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



**Pastor's
Corner**

Getting to Know St. Stephen Together: A Parish of Peace, Simplicity, and Joy

Dear Parishioners of St. Stephen,

Peace and blessings to all of you!

This weekend, we celebrate the Solemnity of St. Francis of Assisi, the principal patron of the City and Archdiocese of San Francisco. Since our city and Archdiocese carry his name, this feast is not only a celebration of one beloved saint; it is also a reminder of the kind of Church we are called to be.

When many people think of St. Francis, they immediately think of animals, nature, birds, and the blessing of pets. That is beautiful and true. But St. Francis was much more than someone who loved creation. He was a man who loved Christ deeply. His love for creation flowed from his love for the Creator.

St. Francis reminds us of simplicity, humility, peace, joy, and care for all God's creatures. He teaches us that holiness does not always have to be complicated. Sometimes holiness begins with a grateful heart, a simple life, a peaceful spirit, and a sincere love for God and neighbor.

As we continue getting to know St. Stephen together, this feast invites us to ask: How can our parish become more like the spirit of St. Francis? How can we be a parish of peace in a world filled with division? How can we be a parish of simplicity in a world that often wants more and more? How can we be a parish of joy in a world where many people are tired and burdened?

St. Francis prayed, "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace." That prayer is not only for saints. It is for all of us. We can be instruments of peace in our families, in our parish, in our school, in our workplaces, and in our daily conversations.

This weekend, as we honor St. Francis, may we also ask God to make St. Stephen Parish a community where peace is practiced, kindness is shared, creation is respected, and Christ is loved above all.

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

St. Francis of Assisi, pray for us.

God bless you all,

Fr. Marvin 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, Oct 5	8:00 am - Cecelia Prete - † By: John Prete
Tuesday, Oct 6	8:00 am - Alberto Esteva - † By: Betty Esteva
Wednesday, Oct 7	8:00 am - Cecelia Prete - † By: Patricia Prete
Thursday, Oct 8	8:00 am - Thanksgiving Mass By: Elizabeth Esteva
Friday, Oct 9	8:00 am - Ching Evarisdo - † By: Elvie Ysip
Saturday, Oct 10	8:00 am - Cecelia Prete - † By: Patricia Prete 4:30 pm - People of the Parish
Sunday, Oct 11	8:00 am - Dan Linehan - † By: Davey Family 10:30 am - Julie Burton - Healing By: Teresa & Tony Devincenzi 6:30 pm - Cecelia Prete - † By: Patricia Prete



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

\$ 4,097.50 Sunday Offertory

\$ 2,205.51 Online Giving

\$ 842.00 Second Collection (AAA)

Please note: This amount does not reflect donations made directly by parishioners to the Archdiocese of San Francisco. We will publish a cumulative total in an upcoming bulletin.

Thank you for your donation!

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.

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.

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



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

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

Looking for a Perfect Venue?

**Our 20,000 Sq.Ft. Parish Event Center,
Donworth Hall & Gym is Available to Rent**



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

Background on the Gospel Reading

What a beautiful invitation from Jesus! This passage is worth reading over and over and memorizing so that it can easily be reflected upon during those more difficult moments in life. We all have those moments. The moments when we feel overwhelmed and burdened. It could be we are burdened by some tragedy in life, or it could be we are burdened by the small and monotonous aspects of life. One of the greatest daily burdens is that of our own sin. But whatever the case may be, Jesus wants us to hear and believe these words. “Come to me...” He says. Come to me no matter what is going on in your life. Come to me without hesitation and without fear.

Jesus also promises us that His “yoke is easy” and His “burden is light.” What does that mean? Does it mean that coming to Jesus will remove all hardship from our lives? No, not really. What it means is that coming to Jesus will enable us to endure and walk through any hardship we encounter in life.

God the Son came and took on our human nature and all that goes along with being human. And though He never sinned, He allowed Himself to experience the effects of sin and the burden it imposes. So as God, He is able to look us in the eye and tell us that He understands our hardships because He lived them. He lived them out of love for us so that He could help us endure, joyfully, all we face in life.

Reflect, today, upon this gentle and glorious invitation from Jesus. Let Him enter into whatever it is that burdens you. Let Him carry the yoke that you carry and give you, instead, the gentle yoke He has prepared for you. The cross you bear may not go away, but it will be transformed and made light in His grace.