

# St. Stephen Parish

*SaintStephenSF.org* | 601 Eucalyptus Dr., San Francisco CA 94132 | Church 415 681-2444

*StStephenSchoolSF.org* | 401 Eucalyptus Dr., San Francisco 94132 | School 415 664-8331

Reconciliation: Saturday 3:30 p.m. or by appt. and 30 min. before each Sunday Mass

Weekday Mass: 8:00 a.m. Vigil Mass Saturday 4:30 p.m.

Sunday Mass 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

THIRD SUNDAY OF

## Easter

April 23, 2023



When the two disciples returned from Emmaus,  
they recounted what had  
taken place on the way.

Luke 24:35

...As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther.

But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?" So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of bread.

[Lk 24:13-35](#)

***Encounter Jesus Christ. Love Jesus Christ. Live Jesus Christ.***

April 23, 2023  
Third Sunday of Easter

The Gospel tells us today, *While he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him.* Immediately, the despair of the two disciples turned to joy; their despondency turned to elation and they rushed back to Jerusalem to tell the other disciples of their encounter with the risen Lord.

It is likely we can identify with these two disciples who were on the road to Emmaus. We have all experienced times of despair and disappointment. We've had dreams dashed and felt overwhelming losses. Perhaps these times have weakened our faith or left us questioning God's plan for us.

Just like the two we hear about today, we need something to bring us out of our gloom at times. We need our outlook lifted and our faith reignited. We need God.

This is what brings us here. We need God, and the Mass gives us what we need. It is not unlike our own "Road to Emmaus." We enter the doors needing to be fed. In the Liturgy of the Word, God speaks to us. The Scriptures feed us, teaching us God's ways and his plan for us. We are nourished again in the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Today's Gospel tells us, *He was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.* This is repeated at every Mass. It is the perfect sacrifice, the perfect meal, the perfect nourishment for our souls. If we open ourselves to all that it offers, we, too, can feel the complete joy that energized Christ's disciples to rush out and share the Good News with others.

Jesus calls them witnesses – *martyrs* in Greek – disciples who give all to proclaim the risen Christ. Peter becomes one of the great examples of this change. In our first reading, we saw a different Peter from the Good Friday man who denied Jesus three times. Filled with the truth of the Resurrection and the power of the Spirit, he is the very opposite of fearful. Now he has the courage to stand before those who condemned Jesus – to proclaim him as the fulfillment of the prophetic promises and to call all to repentance. Saint John matches this powerful message with a reminder to his community of the immensity of Jesus' forgiveness.

So what about us? It is easy in our broken humanity to allow fear and doubt to control us. Yet they must never have the last word: Christ always finds a way to reassure us of the truth and reality of the Resurrection, and its offer of life. As believers, we find that reassurance in the sacramental and liturgical life of the Church where the Scriptures are proclaimed and the Spirit is at work. Here we encounter Christ. Here he takes away our fears and doubts and frees us to go out and share the Good News. Jesus has conquered sin and death. The reign of fear is over.



Our Saint of the Week **St. Catherine of Siena** (March 24, 1347 - April 29, 1380)

The value Catherine makes central in her short life and which sounds clearly and consistently through her experience is complete surrender to Christ. What is most impressive about her is that she learns to view her surrender to her Lord as a goal to be reached through time.

She was the 23rd child of Jacopo and Lapa Benincasa and grew up as an intelligent, cheerful, and intensely religious person. Catherine disappointed her mother by cutting off her hair as a protest against being overly encouraged to improve her appearance in order to attract a husband. Her father ordered her to be left in peace, and she was given a room of her own for prayer and meditation.

She entered the Dominican Third Order at 18 and spent the next three years in seclusion, prayer, and austerity. Gradually, a group of followers gathered around her—men and women, priests and religious. An active public apostolate grew out of her contemplative life. Her letters, mostly for spiritual instruction and encouragement of her followers, began to take more and more note of public affairs. Opposition and slander resulted from her mixing fearlessly with the world and speaking with the candor and authority of one completely committed to Christ. She was cleared of all charges at the Dominican General Chapter of 1374. Her public influence reached great heights because of her evident holiness, her membership in the Dominican Third Order, and the deep impression she made on the pope. She worked tirelessly for the crusade against the Turks and for peace between Florence and the pope.

In 1378, the Great Schism began, splitting the allegiance of Christendom between two, then three, popes and putting even saints on opposing sides. Catherine spent the last two years of her life in Rome, in prayer and pleading on behalf of the cause of Pope Urban VI and the unity of the Church. She offered herself as a victim for the Church in its agony. She died surrounded by her "children" and was canonized in 1461.



**50+ Club**  
**Monday, May 1, 2023**  
**Donworth Hall, Doors Open 12:30pm**  
New members are most welcome! For any questions/ concerns, please call: Helga at 415-731-8211

**We Rent Our Hall**  
FOR ANY OCCASION  
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[donworthevents@saintstephens.org](mailto:donworthevents@saintstephens.org)  
Regarding our parishioners special rate.

# Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



## Monday, Apr 24

8:00 a.m.

† **Remigio Jacinto**  
(By: Remedios Jacinto)

## Tuesday, Apr 25

8:00 a.m.

† **Elena Ledesma**  
(By: Sister)

## Wednesday, Apr 26

8:00 a.m.

† **Aaron Denise**  
(By: Papa & Mama)

## Thursday, Apr 27

8:00 a.m.

**Giacomo Gasaa** *Sp. Int.*  
(By: Elvia Juarez)

## Friday, Apr 28

8:00 a.m.

† **Luz Balajadia**  
(By: Boquiren Family)

## Saturday, Apr 29

8:00 p.m.

† **Rosie Castellano**  
(By: Evangeline Mendiola)

4:30 p.m.

† **Jose P. Ysip**  
(By: Ysip Family)

## Sunday, Apr 30

8:00 a.m.

**St. Stephen Parishioners**  
(By: Fr. Michael)

9:30 a.m.

† **John M. Steele**  
(By: Peggy Teshara)

11:30 a.m.

† **Joe Montalbano**  
(By: Gayle Montalbano)

6:30 p.m.

† **Rosemary Rodriguez**  
(By: Grace & Sergio Puccinelli)

### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — God has raised the crucified Jesus, who now pours forth the Holy Spirit upon us  
(Acts 2:14, 22-33).

**Psalm** — Our God shows us the way to live (Psalm 16).

**Second Reading** — Our faith and hope are in God who raised Jesus from the dead (1 Peter 1:17-21).

**Gospel** — Through his words and in the breaking of the bread, the risen Christ made himself known to two disciples on their way to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35).

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: **Third Sunday of Easter**

Monday: **St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen**

Tuesday: **St. Mark**

Wednesday: **Administrative Professionals Day**

Friday: **St. Peter Chanel;**

**St. Louis Grignon de Montfort;**

**National Arbor Day**

Saturday: **St. Catherine of Siena**

### THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



April 23, 2023

You alone, O LORD, bring security to our dwelling  
*Psalm 4.9*

### Stewardship: A Way of Life (March Report)

\$ 33,433.60 Sunday Collections (3/5,12, 19, 24)

\$ 8,515.00 Online Sunday Collections (3/1-31)

\$ 19,052.00 Donworth Hall March Rental Income

**\$ 61,000.60 Total Income for March 2023**

#### LESS:

\$ 66,799.14 Parish Maintenance for March

**\$ 5,798.54 Over / UNDER**

Please note that we were able to cover the negative income of \$5,798.54 this month from the remaining balance of Parish Dinner's Windfall Income (Taste of Spain) of \$16,482.27.

**Thank you for continuing to generously support your Parish !**

### A CHURCH ACCESSIBLE!

Saint Stephen Church is left open Monday through Saturday from after the morning Mass until 4:00 p.m. This gives you the opportunity to stop by and make a person/private visit with the Blessed Sacrament and to offer your prayers in a quiet, warm and comfortable atmosphere. So, when you are out for an afternoon walk or returning home from shopping or work -- feel free to stop by.

### Sick Relatives & 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.

Patricia Tarango Cruz, Debbie Nunes,  
Tony Devincenzi, Julie Burton,  
Nestor Plondaya, Marie Bachand, Francis Yiu,  
Edna Amora, Rodney Clark, Michelle Vicente,  
Michelle Weeks, Rev Bill McCain, Franz Tittiger,  
Carlota Plondaya, Robert Liam, Marino Tulao,  
Eden Finn, Edileide Jose Barbosa, Kenneth Fambrini,  
Larry Barbieri, Carol Dominguez, Marc Gutierrez,  
Catherine Scossieria, Gwendolyn Walsh,  
Joel Rivera, Jovita & Richard Thompson.

### SPRING

The first day of spring is one thing, and the first spring day is another. The difference between them is sometimes as great as a month. —Henry Van Dyke

## 2023 ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Campaign GOAL : \$ **86,973.00**  
Total Payments Received : \$ 27,144.00  
Campaign Goal Balance : \$ **59,829.00**

We thank the following parishioners who have shared their treasures with the parish **this week** as of 4.18.2023:  
*(For a complete listing, refer to AAA Poster in Church vestibule.)*

Ms Constance Benas  
Mrs Anne F Burgoyne  
M/M Anthony Devincenzi  
Mr. Robert Reidy  
Salesforce Foundation

### THE WAY

It's hard to train a child in a way the parents don't go themselves. — *Anonymous*

### CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER



Blessing before Meals

You give us every good gift,

O God of the covenant. Help us to see in the food spread before us another outpouring of your grace. Be with us as we share this meal and keep us ever mindful of the hungry.

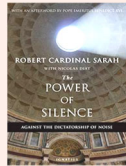
Bless us and the food we are about to receive.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen. .

### St Stephen's Book Club

Book for April:

**"The Power of Silence Against the Dictatorship of Noise"** by Sarah, Cardinal Robert



Come join us as we meet in person on the second Saturday of the month in the parish office conference room. Contact Mary Molly at the parish office for details. Phone - 415 681-2444x4

**online  
GIVING**  
easy, fast, effective.

**St Stephen Church provides Online Giving - a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or recurring donation. Getting started is easy. Visit [www.saintstephensf.org](http://www.saintstephensf.org), click on GIVING link. When you participate, your gift will be securely transferred directly into the parish.**

### TEXT TO GIVE

Text "SAINTSTEPHENSF space desired "AMOUNT" to 73256 to give using your mobile device. This number will never send unsolicited texts to you. To cancel further messages, text STOP. If you need assistance with text giving, text HELP. Standard text message and data rates may apply.

### EMMAUS AND THE MASS

Emmaus might as well be Brigadoon. We hear of it in this one story—and it's only in Luke—and then it disappears. The journey to Emmaus is one of the most beloved stories about Jesus, and yet the town is probably "mythical" in the truest sense. Like so much of life, this story is about the journey, not the destination. Running away from Jerusalem and their fears, probably going home in disillusionment, two of Jesus' disciples encounter a stranger on the road who, like a rabbi, is able to help them understand their experiences using his deep knowledge of scripture. Later, sharing a meal with him, they recognize the stranger as Jesus, and they return to Jerusalem to tell the others. How like our Mass—we hear the scriptures and an explanation of them, we share a meal, and then we go out to tell the good news.

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### Neophytes

Perhaps you've noticed that those who were baptized and newly initiated into the Church at Easter are still sitting in a prominent location during Sunday Mass. Aren't they done? What's going on?

During this Easter season the newly initiated are called "neophytes," and they are living through the final period of the catechumenal process, known by the name "mystagogy." They are exploring the mysteries of their new identity, reflecting on the meaning of the sacraments they celebrated at the Easter Vigil, and strengthening their bonds with Christ and the Christian community. That they are living their new identity in such a public way should be an inspiration to the rest of us, a sign that this new life in Christ really makes a difference. And they are also still in need of the prayers and support of the rest of the community.

As neophytes and fully-initiated members of the Christian community, they are no longer being dismissed for catechesis during Mass. Perhaps you might take advantage of their presence at the end of Mass and engage one in conversation.

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

#### "Mystagogy"

Reflection on the Easter mysteries, is the chief task of these great fifty days, a "pentecost," in other words, of grace and renewal. Every Sunday we have accounts of Resurrection appearances of the Lord, and sketches of the earliest efforts at being church.

Lent is described as a journey to the font, and Easter may be described in similar terms, since at the very beginning an angel tells the apostles that the Risen Lord "has gone before you into Galilee." Galilee, of course, was the place where Jesus did his finest work, his preaching, his healing, his gathering the lost and the marginalized to the table. At Easter, we hurry to catch up, putting our renewed baptismal promises to work in our own personal Galilees, our little worlds waiting for a word of grace, a healing, an act of pardon, an invitation to share a meal. The water often splashed on our Sunday assemblies in Eastertide reminds us: these are the golden, shining days of grace, days to nurture the heart, to speak to one another about things that really matter.

—*Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.*

## Sunday Connection



God speaks to us in many ways, including through the Sunday Scripture readings. The Sunday Connection provides useful background and activities to better understand the upcoming Sunday's Scripture readings, helping you to connect the Scripture to daily life in a meaningful way.

### Third Sunday of Easter

### Background on the Gospel Reading

On most Sundays during the Easter season in Cycle A, our Gospel is taken from the Gospel of John. This week's Gospel, however, is taken from the Gospel of Luke. As in last week's Gospel, today's Gospel shows us how the first community of disciples came to believe that Jesus had risen from the dead. In these stories we gain insight into how the community of the Church came to be formed.

When we read today's Gospel, we may be surprised to learn that these friends of Jesus could walk and converse with him at some length yet not recognize him. Again we discover that the risen Jesus is not always easily recognized. Cleopas and the other disciple walk with a person whom they believe to be a stranger; only later do they discover that the stranger is Jesus. We learn that the first community met and recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread, just as we meet Jesus in the Eucharist.

We can imagine the feelings of the two disciples in today's reading. They are leaving their community in Jerusalem. Their friend Jesus has been crucified. Their hope is gone. They are trying to make sense of what has occurred, so that they can put the experience behind them. Jesus himself approaches the two men, but they take him for a stranger. Jesus asks them what they are discussing. He invites them to share their experience and interpretation of the events surrounding his crucifixion and death. When the two disciples have done so, Jesus offers his own interpretation of his crucifixion and resurrection, citing Jewish Scripture. In that encounter we find the model for our Liturgy of the Word—what we do each time we gather as a community for the Eucharist. We reflect upon our life experiences and interpret them in light of Scripture. We gather together to break open the Word of God.

In the next part of the story, we find a model for our Liturgy of the Eucharist. The disciples invite the stranger (Jesus) to stay with them. During the meal in which they share in the breaking of the bread, the disciples' eyes are opened; they recognize the stranger as Jesus. In the Eucharist too we share in the breaking of the bread and discover Jesus in our midst. Just as the disciples returned to Jerusalem to recount their experience to the other disciples, we too are sent from our Eucharistic gathering. Our experience of Jesus in the Eucharist compels us to share the story with others. *Loyola Press*

### Our Spiritual "Humor" for the Week

(The Risen Lord is watching) Up at the head table in the cafeteria, one of the nuns had placed a big bowl of bright red, fresh, juicy apples. Beside the bowl, she placed a note which read, "Take only one. Remember, Jesus is watching." At the other end of the table was a bowl full of freshly baked chocolate chip cookies, still warm from the oven. Beside the bowl was a little note scrawled in a child's handwriting which read, "Take all you want. Jesus is watching the apples!"

### THE FAMOUS BABE RUTH

During Babe Ruth's baseball career, he drifted away from his Faith. One night he was very ill in a New York hospital, and a friend suggested he makes his peace with God. As a result, Babe Ruth asked to see a priest. After celebrating the sacrament of Reconciliation, Babe Ruth wrote: "As I lay in bed that evening, I thought to myself – what a comfortable feeling to be free from fear and worries. I could simply turn them over to God." Wow! .



*St. Stephen Men's Club Presents*

### The 2023 - 28<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL COUGAR CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT

**FRIDAY MAY 19th 2023**

**11:00am Warm-up**

**12:00 noon Shotgun Start**

**TPC HARDING PARK**

**99 Harding Road, San Francisco CA 94132**

**Dinner and Raffle (6:00 p.m.), to follow at Harding**

**\$250 Per Person**

*All Proceeds Benefit St. Stephen School*

**Includes: Golf Fees, Golf Cart, Participation Gifts, Tee Prizes, Box Lunch & Grilled Snacks, Beverage Options, Range Balls, 19th Hole Festivities, "Longest Drive" Contest, "Closest to the Pin" Contest and Buffet Dinner.**

**Register at: [ststephencougarclassic.com](http://ststephencougarclassic.com)**

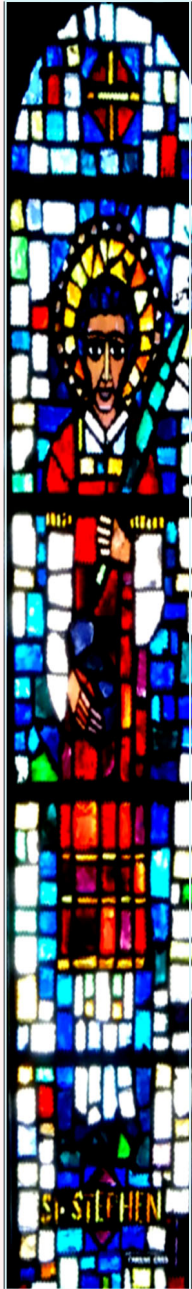
**Please make checks payable to:**

**St. Stephen Men's Club**

**401 Eucalyptus Drive**

**San Francisco, CA 94132**

**This event traditionally sells out. So sign up now!!**



## PASTORAL STAFF

**Rev. Michael Lilledahl**

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**Fr. Cameron Faller**

*Priest in Residence, SFSU Chaplain*

**Fr. Michael Healy**

*Priest in Residence*

**Rev. Mr. Manuel "Olet" Abad**

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e.prete@SaintStephenSF.org

## ST STEPHEN PARISH 2022-2023

### ORGANIZATION/MINISTRY

### CONTACT PERSON

- Altar Servers                      Giovanna Hrvatin
- Altar Society                      Joan Leehane
- Bridge Group                      Virginia Stefanelli
- Caritas                              Nellie Hizon
- Church Hospitality              Mary Molly Mullaney
- Communion Ministers          Mary Molly Mullaney
- Faith Formation                  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
- Lectors                              Mary Molly Mullaney
- Liturgy Committee              Fr. Michael Lilledahl
- Marriage Preparation            Clergy
- Men's Club                        Martin Murphy
- Parish Council                    Vicky Francisco
- RCIA                                Mary Molly Mullaney
- St. Stephen Book Club        Mary Molly Mullaney
- Ushers                              Jim Scheg
- Women's Guild                  Naomi Kelly

Parish Office Phone 415.681.2444

### ***Our warmest welcome to all who celebrate with us!***

You can **sign up** or **update** your information by completing this form & placing it in the collection basket, by mailing it to the Parish Office, by phone at 415-681-2444 or at [www.saintstephensf.org](http://www.saintstephensf.org)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Complete Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Weekly Sunday envelopes , circle one: Yes No, but commit to participate thru Online Giving.

I am interested in assisting the Parish in an organization or ministry as (Please encircle your choice/s):  
 Acolyte/ Altar Service, Altar Society, Children's Liturgy of the Word, Greeter/Usher, Hospitality after Mass/Special Events, Holy Communion Ministers to the Homebound, Music/Choir, Lector &/or Holy Communion Ministers, Parish Center Front Office Volunteer.