

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.

April 9
2023

Easter

SUNDAY

HE HAS BEEN RAISED FROM THE DEAD,
AND HE IS GOING
BEFORE YOU TO GALILEE.

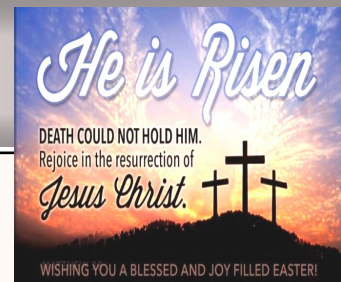
Matthew 28:7



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

April 9, 2023
EASTER SUNDAY
Of the Resurrection of the Lord



The passage from John's Gospel takes place *on the first day of the week*. This is reminiscent of the Creation account in Genesis which narrates the events of creation and the Fall in a garden. So, now again, God brings life in the garden where Jesus' tomb was located. Mary Magdalene *came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark*. In John's Gospel, darkness represents a time of lack of faith. Mary is not expecting the Resurrection; she comes to mourn the death of Jesus. When she discovers that the tomb is empty, her first thought is that the body of Jesus has been stolen. She returns to the disciples and tells them, *we don't know where they put him*.

When the two disciples arrive at the tomb, they find it just as she described it. But while Peter seems to not understand, the *other disciple ... saw and believed*. He understands what the others will come to know when the risen Christ appears to them: Jesus is risen. The burial cloths that were left behind are of no need to one who has conquered death.

We have no burial cloths here – but we do have the bread and wine that will become the body and blood of our Lord. Easter is the oldest feast in the Church year. From that day of Resurrection, through this moment (and into the future), the disciples of Jesus gather to celebrate and remember the saving events of his death and being raised from the dead.

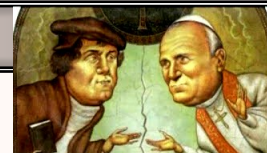
Saint Peter, at the house of the Roman centurion Cornelius, recounts *what has happened all over Judea* concerning Jesus. Peter's sermon describes the good deeds of Jesus, who was anointed with the Holy Spirit. But, *they put him to death by hanging him on a tree*. After God raised him from the dead, Jesus appeared to his disciples and commissioned them to preach the Gospel. This is what Peter is doing for Cornelius' household. We learn in subsequent verses that their response to Peter's words is to accept the faith and be baptized.

Saint Paul tells the Corinthians that Christ is our Paschal Lamb who *has been sacrificed* for us. This imagery, reminiscent of the first Passover, indicates that the shedding of Jesus' blood has redeemed us. In light of this, Paul calls us to live in newness of life, putting aside our old ways and embracing the *unleavened bread of sincerity and truth*.



From that first Easter moment, the Church began to grow. This is the core belief of our Christian faith: It is the risen Lord who gathers us together around his table to listen to the sacred stories about our faith, and then he gives himself to us in the form of bread and wine, as he did with his disciples on the night before he died. We share in the life of the risen Christ now, as Cornelius and his family did; as Paul and the Corinthians did; and, until Christ comes again, as our children will. God be praised for this gift of salvation to the world.

Our Saint of the Week **Pope Martin I**



Pope Martin I had been a lector and deacon in his youth. He was elected pope in 649 when a heresy called Monothelitism was causing confusion in the Church. This doctrine held that there was one nature in Christ—the divine nature—and that Christ had only one will. It therefore denied that Christ was like us in all things but sin and so denied our redemption. Because this group was slowly splitting the Eastern Empire, many eastern Catholics attempted to compromise. In an edict called the Typos, Emperor Constans II practically accepted the heretical doctrine by forbidding discussion of the matter. Pope Martin called a council at the Lateran. One hundred five bishops attended the council, which condemned Typos and published an explanation of the doctrine of the two natures in Christ. The council emphasized that the emperor had been misguided by his advisors. The council angered the emperor, who had Martin arrested and taken on a long, difficult voyage from Rome to Constantinople. When Martin arrived in Constantinople, he was insulted by the people and accused in an unjust trial, not for defending the faith but for being a traitor. Publicly, the emperor had Martin stripped of his episcopal robes, which were ripped from top to bottom. Then Martin was condemned to death. The Church elected a new pope. Martin, exiled and neglected, wrote that he prayed for the safety of the faithful in Rome and especially for their new pastor. The verdict of death was changed when the repentant, dying patriarch of Constantinople interceded for Martin. Martin was then exiled to Crimea, where he died forgotten.

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



Our 20,000 Square Foot Parish Center Available to Rent for Special Occasions

call Shay Ingelfinger at 415 681-2444
For more information, ext.7 or
donworthevents@saintstephensf.org
regarding the hourly rate available for our parishioners.

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Monday, Apr 10

8:00 a.m.

Paul Cardoza *Sp. Int.*
(By: *Philomena Cardoza*)

Tuesday, Apr 11

8:00 a.m.

† **Jess De Jesus**
(By: *Cindy & CJC*)

Wednesday, Apr 12

8:00 a.m.

† **George Tercero Jr.**
(By: *Francine Tercero*)

Thursday, Apr 13

8:00 a.m.

† **Scott A. Featherstone**
(By: *Margarita S. Tucker*)

Friday, Apr 14

8:00 a.m.

Ding & Carol *Thanksgiving*
(By: *Ding & Carol*)

Saturday, Apr 15

8:00 p.m.

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

4:30 p.m.

Rey Ysip *Sp. Int.*
(By: *Ysip Family*)

Sunday, Apr 16

8:00 a.m.

Moises Bautista Jr.
(By: *Charlotte Bautista & Family*)

9:30 a.m.

† **Gary West**
(By: *Ramon & Patty Marguez*)

11:30 a.m.

Tony & Teresa *Sp. Int.*
(By: *Tony & Teresa*)

6:30 p.m.

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

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Peter is an eyewitness: The Lord is risen (*Acts 10:34a, 37-43*).

Psalm — Let us be joyful in this day of the Lord (*Psalms 118*).

(1) Second Reading — All who are baptized, set your hearts in heaven (*Colossians 3:1-4*) or

(2) Second Reading — Christ our Passover is sacrificed; therefore let us celebrate (*1 Corinthians 5:6b-8*).

Gospel — Three witnesses, Mary, Peter, and John; each responds to the empty tomb (*John 20:1-9*) or *Matthew 28:1-10* (or, at an afternoon or evening Mass, *Luke 24:13-35*).

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: **Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord**

Monday: **Monday within the Octave of Easter**

Tuesday: **Tuesday within the Octave of Easter**

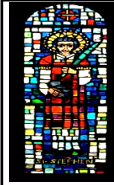
Wednesday: **Wednesday within the Octave of Easter**

Thursday: **Thursday within the Octave of Easter**

Friday: **Friday within the Octave of Easter; Julian Calendar Good Friday**

Saturday: **Saturday within the Octave of Easter**

EASTER SUNDAY



April 9, 2023

I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the LORD.

— *Psalms 118:17*

REJOICE AND BE GLAD

If Christmas is the “most wonderful time of the year,” then Easter is the most joyous, glorious, awesome time of the year! Really? Today’s readings don’t exactly brim over with the kind of holiday cheer we find at Christmas—except for the responsorial psalm, which admittedly rings with gleeful joy. But otherwise, not so much. In the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Peter gives a dry, condensed rendering of the story of Jesus to a group of Gentiles in Caesarea. The Colossians reading actually does have us looking forward to glory. Most underwhelming, though, is the Gospel proclamation of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. When we want to hear about angels and earthquakes and trumpets and glory, we hear about a dark, silent, empty tomb. This Easter Sunday story from John’s Gospel is startling in its emptiness. Like Peter in the story, we must enter into this mystery.

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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.**

Please call the office to add or remove names

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 : \$ 24,444.00
Campaign Goal Balance : \$ 62,529.00

We thank the following parishioners who have shared their treasures with the parish **this week** as of 4.4.2023:

(For a complete listing, refer to AAA Poster in Church vestibule.)

M/M John Bruno	Ms Jessica Montgomery
M/M Garvin Garzee	M/M James O'Callaghan
M/M Ryan Gille	M/M Francis E. Prete
Ms Cynthia G Kelly	M/M Henry Sanchez
Ms Nancy Koch	Donovan Schneider &
Mrs Beatriz Lacson	Deborah Lobo
Mrs Karen Leach	Mrs. Maria Xavier
Mrs. Pamela Mapson	
M/M Lawrence Mazzola	

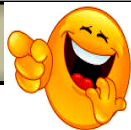
CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER

Queen of Heaven (Regina Caeli)
Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia.
For he whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia.
has risen, as he foretold, alleluia.
Pray for us to God, alleluia.
Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.
for the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

O God, who gave joy to the world
by the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
Grant, we beseech you,
that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary,
his Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life.
Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.



This Week's Humor



1) Joseph of Arimathea was a very wealthy Pharisee, a member of the council, and a secret follower of Jesus. It was Joseph who went to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body after the crucifixion. And it was Joseph who supplied the tomb for Jesus' burial. I wonder if someone pulled him aside and said, "Joseph that was such beautiful, costly, hand-hewn tomb. Why on earth did you give it to someone else to be buried in?" "Why not?" Joseph may have answered. "He only needed it for the weekend."

2) Presidential candidate Mike Huckabee, former governor of Arkansas, was once asked if he believed in resurrection. "Of course, I do," said Huckabee. "Dead people vote in every election we have in Arkansas. Resurrection is very real to us."

Significance of Easter

Easter is the greatest and the most important feast in the Church. It marks the birthday of our eternal hope. "Easter" literally means "the feast of fresh flowers." We celebrate it with pride and jubilation for three reasons:



1) **The resurrection of Christ is the basis of our Christian Faith.** The Resurrection is the greatest of the miracles -- it proves that Jesus is God. That is why St. Paul writes: "If *Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain; and your Faith is in vain... And if Christ has not been raised, then your Faith is a delusion and you are still lost in your sins... But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep*" (I Cor 15:14, 17, 20). If Jesus Christ did not rise from the dead, then the Church is a fraud, and Faith is a sham. But if He really did rise from the dead, His message is true! Without the Resurrection, Jesus would have remained forever a good person who had met a tragic end. People would remember some of his teachings, and a handful of people might try to live according to them. All the basic doctrines of Christianity are founded on the truth of the Resurrection. "*Jesus is Lord; He is risen*" (Rom 10:9) was the central theme of the *kerygma* (or "preaching"), of the Apostles. In fact, the seventeenth-century philosopher, John Locke, some of whose ideas were incorporated into the Declaration of Independence, wrote, "Our Savior's Resurrection is truly of great importance in Christianity, so great that His being or not being the Messiah stands or falls with it."

2) **Easter is the guarantee of our own resurrection.** Jesus assured Martha at the tomb of Lazarus: "*I am the Resurrection and the life; whoever believes in Me will live even though he dies*" (Jn 11:25-26). Christ will raise us up on the last day, but it is also true, in a sense, that we have already risen with Christ. By virtue of the Holy Spirit, our Christian life is already a participation in the death and Resurrection of Christ (CCC, #1002, #1003).

3) **Easter is a feast which gives us hope and encouragement.** In this world of pain, sorrows and tears, Easter reminds us that life is worth living. It is our belief in the Real Presence of the Risen Jesus in our souls, in His Church, in the Blessed Sacrament and in Heaven that gives meaning to our personal, as well as to our common, prayers. Our trust in the all-pervading presence of the Risen Lord gives us strength to fight against temptations and freedom from unnecessary worries and fears. The prayer of St. Patrick, the Apostle of Ireland, reads: "Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ within me, never to part."

THE SHIP OF THE CHURCH

The Church is like a great ship being pounded by the waves of life's different stresses. Our duty is not to abandon ship, but to keep her on her course. —St.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Easter Sunday

The Lenten journey is now complete, its mission of renewal and preparation to receive new life fulfilled. The call to worship the Risen Lord has been received, and we gather to experience together the consoling presence of Christ in word and sacrament. We are at our best today, crowded and cramped to be sure, but the fullest sign of who we are meant to be. Christ has claimed us in the waters of baptism, we have acquired wonderful companions, and together we can accomplish great things.

This is the day for rekindling the old flames of baptismal commitment, so we light the paschal candle, and by its light we make yet again the ancient promises to reject evil's grip and empty promises. Today we do not recite the Creed, but respond with one voice to age-old questions. New life has to be nurtured, both the life of the newly baptized and the renewed life of those who have



passed through Lent's refining prayer, fasting, and giving alms. At any Mass during the next fifty days, you may be surprised by grace and splashed by water!

—Rev. James Field,
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FORGIVENESS

To forgive is to set a prisoner free and to discover that the prisoner is me. —Anonymous

NEW WAYS TO

GIVE

AVAILABLE NOW!



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, 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.

OUR FASCINATING FAITH

Easter Season

Our Easter celebration lasts fifty days, during which Resurrection joy should overflow the hearts of believers to refresh a parched and weary world with the revivifying waters of faith, hope, and charity. All season, at every Sunday Mass, we read Luke's Acts of the Apostles, charting the young church's Spirit-led journey, sometimes peaceful, sometimes persecuted, beset by enemies without and turmoil within. But this young church is always moving onward, from Jerusalem's familiarity to the strangeness of every place between there and Rome; and outward, from an inherited Judaism's comfortable uniformity to the Gentile world's challenging diversity. A week after Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday invites us to renew our personal relationship with Jesus. On the Third Sunday of Easter, the disciples at Emmaus recognize Jesus in the breaking of the bread, and return to share the Good News even as modern-day disciples should. On Good Shepherd Sunday, the church prays for priestly and religious vocations. All the while, Acts shows people drawn to the early Church because they had seen the Risen Jesus not in person, but in persons, in disciples who still form Christ's living Body, the Church. Each of us is likewise called to be the kind of disciple, personally and in communion with our brothers and sisters, in whom those who seek Jesus may at least glimpse his presence.

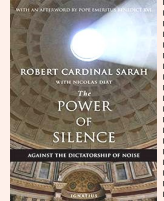


—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

St Stephen's Book Club

Book for April:

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



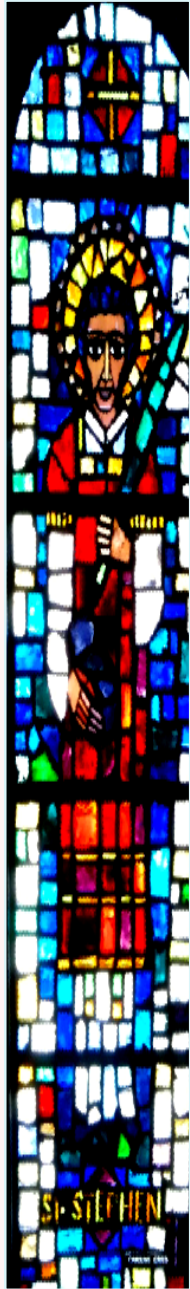
In a time when technology penetrates our lives in so many ways and materialism exerts such a powerful influence over us, Cardinal Robert Sarah presents a bold book about the strength of silence. After the international success of God or Nothing, Cardinal Sarah seeks to restore to silence its place of honor and importance. "Silence is more important than any other human work," he says, "for it expresses God. The true revolution comes from silence; it leads us toward God and others so as to place ourselves humbly and generously at their service."

Nicolas Diat is a French journalist and author. His previous collaboration with Cardinal Sarah was on his book, God or Nothing. Come join us as we meet the 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

EFFORTLESS

The only thing that comes to a person without effort is old age

—Anonymous



PASTORAL STAFF

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Priest in Residence, SFSU Chaplain

Fr. Michael Healy

Priest in Residence

Rev. Mr. Manuel "Olet" Abad

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Ed Prete

Bulletin Editor, ext. 6

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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

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.