

St. Stephen Parish

SaintStephenSF.org | 451 Eucalyptus Dr., San Francisco CA 94132 | Church 415 681-2444

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

Daily Mass: Mondays thru Saturdays 8:00 a.m.

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

Vigil Mass Saturday 4:30 p.m. Sunday Mass 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

I am the
bread
of *life;*

whoever comes to me
will never hunger,
and whoever believes
in me will never thirst.

John 6:35



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August 4, 2024

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

A Message from our Pastor

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

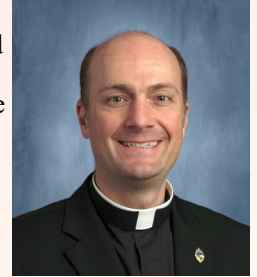
We had fun at last weekend's *A Grand Day* activity day with many grandchildren, grandparents, and parents having some relaxing fun time together. A big thank you to our Director of Faith Formation, Mary Molly Mullaney, for organizing the day with her volunteers. It is a reminder to us how each generation of a family is a gift to each other and how we can learn so much from each other, no matter what our age.

Regarding the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis that concluded two weeks ago, I mentioned that it was a gathering of over 50,000 people from across the United States. In recalling the entire event, there was so much good happening from people praising the Lord, praying for one another, receiving the sacraments of the Eucharist and Reconciliation, and being inspired and challenged from A-list speakers. With so much good happening, there is no way to deny that the Holy Spirit was not present and not at work. So incredible. It was such a blessed time for those attending and for the entire Church in the U.S. For me, it was an opportunity to reconnect with many priests I know from across the U.S. as there were over 1000 priests and with that many people, you are bound to meet someone you know. The closing Mass was quite an impactful experience as it took place (along with several other events) in the stadium where the Colts football team plays. It is always better to worship in a full church and when 50k of your fellow Catholics come together for Sunday Mass, the experience of a full church is amplified. I have been to large Masses like this in Rome, but in that case the Holy Father is usually the draw along with being at Mass at St. Peter's Basilica. Here, the draw for all of us coming together was Jesus Christ and our desire to come a gather and pray together on the Lord's Day, just as the Church has been doing for 2000 years. Cardinal Tagle was the Pope Francis' delegate to the Eucharistic Congress and in his homily at the closing Mass, he emphasized the mission that all of us receive from Christ, particularly through receiving his gift of the Eucharistic. We speak of his Body and Blood as being food for the journey, and the Lord sends us forth on this journey to our sisters and brothers in the world. You may go online and search for some of the talks and presenters that were recorded by EWTN.

As I settle into the life of the parish, I have been meeting with various leaders in our parish community. I have been able to have preliminary meetings with the head of our parish council and parish finance council and I look forward to gathering with the full membership of these advisory groups as the year progresses. We are fortunate to have many people who are generous with their time and talents, and I am grateful for their expertise and advice. I know our parish is filled with many more people like this who help to make our parish community such a blessing for all of us and I look forward to meeting all of you as well.

Father Schunk

A WORD
FROM THE
PASTOR



Our Saint of the Week The Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major Feast Day - August 5, 2024



When you hear the word church, what do you think of? Do you think of the priests and people of your own parish? Do you think of a Sunday morning when families of the parish gather to celebrate the Eucharistic liturgy? Do you picture a stately

building with a round dome, pointed towers, and stained glass windows? The word church has a variety of meanings. Today's feast focuses our attention on a church building, a basilica called St. Mary Major. Tradition says that in August 352 the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to a wealthy nobleman in Rome. She asked that a church be built on the spot where he would find snow. On that summer day, snow did mysteriously appear and a church was built on the spot and dedicated to Our Lady of the Snows.

Apart from the story, however, we know that a church was built on that spot in the fourth century and was rebuilt in 434. The church was also rededicated to Mary, the Mother of God. This title of Mary was protected by the ecumenical council of Ephesus. Today St. Mary Major is the largest church in the world dedicated to Our Lady. This church is called a patriarchal church, one where the pope officiates on certain occasions. There is a special altar in this church used by the Holy Father and by others with special permission. On a deeper level, this feast reminds us that Mary has been revered throughout the history of the Church as our Mother. As she foretold in her prayer, the Magnificat, "All generations will call me blessed" (Luke 1:48).

**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 Donation link. When you participate, your gift will be securely transferred directly into the parish.

Our 20,000 sq. ft.
Parish Event Center Donworth Hall
is Available to Rent
Shay at 415 681-2444 x7
Or online at:
donworthevents@saintstephensf.org

We Rent Our Hall
FOR ANY OCCASION
USE OUR PARTY ROOM!

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Monday, Aug 5

8:00 a.m.

† **Dodge Espina**
(By: Dorothy Over)

Tuesday, Aug 6

8:00 a.m.

† **Vera Brennan Greely**
(By: Joan Leehane)

Wednesday, Aug 7

8:00 a.m.

† **Apolinario Reyes**
(By: Liberty Mungcal)

Thursday, Aug 8

8:00 a.m.

† **Clyde Walker Jr**
(By: Charlotte O'Callaghan)

Friday, Aug 9

8:00 a.m.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Sp. Int. (By: Joe Fernandes)

Saturday, Aug 10

8:00 a.m.

† **Marta Ames**
(By: Marquez Family)

4:30 p.m.

† **Albert Gragnani**
(By: Diane Gragnani)

Sunday, Aug 11

8:00 a.m.

† **Claudio Hrvatin**
(By: Kathleen Kelly)

10:30 a.m.

† **Renee Lobo**
(By: Deborah Lobo)

6:30 p.m.

St Stephen Parishioners
(By: Fr. Schunk)

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 4, 2024 Do not work for food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life.
— *John 6:27a*



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — I will rain down bread from heaven for you (Exodus 16:2-4,12-15).

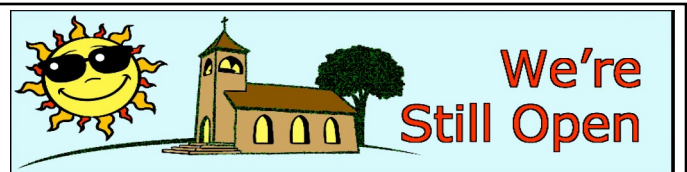
Psalms — The Lord gave them bread from heaven (Psalm 78).

Second Reading — Put on the new self that has been created in God's way (Ephesians 4:17, 20-24).

Gospel — Whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst (*John 6:24-35*).

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday:	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	The Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major
Tuesday:	The Transfiguration of the Lord
Wednesday:	St. Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions
Thursday:	St. Cajetan, St. Dominic
Friday:	St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross
Saturday:	St. Clare, St. Lawrence



We're Still Open

DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

Parishes follow the pattern of the school year - i.e. the life of the parish and its organizations start up each September and continue into the following June. The three months of Summer usually means a diminished Sunday Mass attendance at St. Stephen. Many of you have been blessed by God with a second home elsewhere. As you look forward to getting away for some weeks, please remember your summer contributions to St. Stephen. Bills to be paid will continue to come in daily over summer.

Also, during this time, there is less St. Stephen news in your Sunday Bulletin. We welcome your articles regarding an anniversary, wedding, baptism, your favorite poem or a memory of St. Stephen happening in the past.

TEXT to GIVE

Text "SAINTSTEPHENSF" to 73256
using your mobile device.



Join the FUN!

Monday, August 12, 2024
Doors Open 12:30pm
50+ Seniors are ALL INVITED!

Enjoy camaraderie, snacks,
Bingo games, Bridge, etc

For any questions/ concerns,
please call: Betty at 650-589-0726



The SFSU Newman Club will begin classes again when collegiate classes start in mid-August.

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.

Pacita Calimlim-Sagun, Araceli Caparas, Ana Caballero, George Farrales, Perry Young, Antoinette Mishirsky, Maggie Harbison, Danilo Dacasin, Greg Lorio, Adelle Caunan, Debbie Nunes, Tony Devincenzi, Julie Burton, Nestor & Nelson Plondaya, Marie Bachand, Francis Yiu, Edna Amora, Rodney Clark, Michelle Vicente, Michelle Weeks, Franz Tittiger, Carlota Plondaya, Robert Liam, Eden Finn, Edileide Jose Barbosa, Kenneth Fambrini, Larry Barbriere, Carol Dominguez, Marc Gutierrez, Catherine Scosseria, Gwendolyn Walsh, Joel Rivera, Jovita & Richard Thompson.

Please call the office to add or remove names of people

Background on the Gospel Reading

Gospel Reading *John 6:24-35*



This Sunday we continue to read from the sixth chapter of John's Gospel, but not continuously. Our Lectionary omits John's report of Jesus' walking on water. This event is reported much less dramatically in John's Gospel than in the Synoptic Gospels. After the feeding of the

multitudes, the disciples leave in a boat and Jesus follows them. The disciples are said to be terrified by what they see. Jesus reassures them and rejoins them. In today's Gospel, we learn that the crowd has noticed the departure of Jesus and his disciples and so seeks them out in Capernaum. In the dialogue that follows between Jesus and the crowds, Jesus unfolds for us the gift of himself that that he gives in the Eucharist.

In today's Gospel, there are four exchanges between Jesus and the crowd. In the first, the crowd, having followed Jesus to Capernaum, asks a very matter of fact question: "Rabbi, when did you get here?" Jesus replies by naming their motivation in pursuing him. They have been fed. Jesus acknowledges this, yet challenges them to see beyond the fulfillment of their material needs. The crowds have followed Jesus because they have been fed. They ought to be seeking out Jesus because he can give them eternal life.

As the second dialogue begins, it seems that the crowd might be on their way to accepting Jesus and his mission. They ask: "What can we do to accomplish the works of God?" Jesus replies that they must have faith in the one sent from God. But in the third dialogue, the crowd reveals their inability to see Jesus' true identity. They ask Jesus for a sign so that they might know that Jesus is from God. How strange this sounds since Jesus has just fed more than 5000 people. What more is expected?

But the crowd cannot see beyond the surface of the sign. They show this in their interpretation of the sign that came from Moses. In their description, they identify Jesus with Moses, as if to say, as Moses gave the people manna in the desert, give us a sign so that we will know that you are from God. They are looking to identify a prophet without realizing that God is standing before them. Jesus corrects their misinterpretation, saying that the manna received by their ancestors came from God. As God fulfilled their ancestors' needs in the desert, so God has provided them with food for eternal life. In the bread that they have received from Jesus, they have received physical nourishment and also spiritual nourishment. Jesus wants the crowd to see beyond the surface to the One who provides true nourishment.

The conclusion of the dialogue reveals the crowd's blindness. They ask for what Jesus has just told them they have found: "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus answers plainly that he himself is the Bread of Life they seek. Jesus himself is the Bread of Life who will satisfy every hunger and thirst. This is the first of several such statements found in John's Gospel. We understand these better when we remember that God revealed his name to the people of Israel as "I am," as Yahweh. Jesus is now claiming this name for himself. *Loyola Press*



St. Stephen's Faith Formation Program Registration Now Open!

Faith Formation is a religious education program for students who attend non-Catholic schools, from 1st to 8th grades. We prepare children for First Holy Communion and Confirmation. The program begins in mid-September and ends in May. We meet on Mondays from 4:15 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the parish office building. Register online or contact Mary Molly, 415.681.2444 x4 or email:

FaithFormation@SaintStephenSF.org
www.bit.ly/StStephenFF



A Bag of Rice to Share

From her personal experience, St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa) the rich becarelated a story showing how the poor are more generous than use the poor have experienced hunger and poverty. Learning of a poor Hindu family in Calcutta who had been starving for many days, Mother Theresa visited them and brought a big parcel of rice to the mother. She was surprised to see how the mother divided the rice into two equal portions and went out with one bundle to give it to her Moslem neighbor. When she returned, Mother Theresa asked her why she had done such a generous deed. The woman replied: "My family can manage with half the rice in this bag. My neighbor's family has several children and they are also starving." Today's Gospel tells the story of a small boy who showed this same kind of generosity. By sharing his small lunch (which consisted of five barley loaves and two dried fish), he became the instrument in Jesus' working of a miracle that fed thousands.

Our Humor for the Week

Mass Intention. During a Sunday service, the pastor asked the congregation for their intentions. There were the usual requests to pray for sick people, and the acknowledgements f'or those who helped when a parishioner died. The somber mood was broken when the last intention was heard. A woman stood up and said, "My granddaughter turned 16 this week and received her driver's license. Let us pray for us all."

Looking at my #3. A 75-yr old woman in a retirement home was admiring a 90-year old man. "Why do you keep looking at me so much? Asked the man. "Well," she responded, " you look just like my thirid husband." "How many husbands have you had?" "Two"



Grandpa Biting His Nails.

Hal: Grandma cured Grandpa of biting his nails.

Sal: How did she do it?

Hal: She hid his false teeth!



2024 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal

PARISH GOAL	:	\$ 84,637.00
Total Amount Received	:	\$ 24,696.00
Week No. 22 (as of 7/27/2024)		(71 household)
Outstanding Balance	:	\$ 59,941.00

We thank all those families who have already made their pledge/donations to the Appeal. As of June 2024, we have reached about 40% of our goal. For the next 6 months, we pray that the balance of \$61,641 be met so that we do not pull out from our parish savings

Anonymous	M/M Lawrence Hayes
M/M Carlos Altamirano	Ms Joanne Hayes-White
M/M Dale Allen Jr	M/M Viet Ho
M/M Allan D Ayson	M/M Claudio Hrvatin
M/M John Azevedo	Ms. Cynthia G. Kelly
Ms. Constance E Benas	Mr. Paul Laveroni
Anne Berry & Paul Schrage	Mrs. Karen Leach
Mr. Clemence Blondo	M/M Daniel Leehane
Mrs. Felisa Boquiren	M/M John Lie
M/M Greg Breslin	Rev Michael D Lilledahl
Mrs Zenaida Cajilig	Ms Pamela Mapson
M/M Gerald Carrillo	M/M Lawrence Mazzola
Mr Tom Carroll	Ms Joanne McGrail
Mr. Frank Cassinelli	Mrs Gayle Montalbano
M/M Yu-Lang Chen	Sean McGrillen & Sarah Barca
M/M Thomas Cleary	Ms Jessica Montgomery
Ms Buena Cuevo	Mr Thomas A Mullaney Jr
Ms Alicia De Jesus	M/m Remidius Ojong
Ms. Joanne Desmond	Ms. Myrna Orais
M/M Glenn Dudro	M/M Freddy Ramos
M/M John & Marie Duggan	M/M John Ritchie
M/M James Dyer Jr	M/M Henry Sanchez
Christian Fernandez & Leah Luistro	M/M Emil Sayada
M/M Gerard Fernandez	Rev David Schunk
M/M Michael Fesko	Ms. Lutzie Sotto
M/< Kevin Fitzpatrick	Mrs Virginia Stefanelli
Mrs Sandra Frieztsche	Ms Dominic Soares
M/M Lawrence Gallagher	Ms. Peggy Teshara
M/M Darius Garcia	M/M Tom Tuohy
M/M Gavin Garzee	Mrs Milagros Ubungen
M/M Ryan Gille	Mr Gregory Von Holt
Ms. Diane Gagnani	Jason Wong & Joji Quimbo
M/M William Green Jr	Mrs. Maria Xavier
M/M James Hargarten	M/M Reynaldo Ysip

Thank You !!

The 2024 Mass Intention Calendar is now full and has no more available dates for mass intentions for the rest of the year. Stay tuned when the 2025 Mass Intention Calendar will be open for your intentions. Thank you!

ARE YOU HUNGRY?

There's a story found in the Chronicles of Narnia. In The Voyage of the Dawn Treader, the fifth volume of that series, Mary, Edmund, their cousin Eustice, and some of the colorful creatures of Narnia, come upon a crystal clear pool of water with what appears to be a golden statue of a man at the bottom. Only, they discover that it is a magical pool that turns everything into gold that touches the water. It appears that the statue at the bottom of the pool is a man who either didn't know about the pool's magic powers, or he was so consumed with accumulating gold that he ignored its dangers. Even though the characters of the story are awed at the magic of the pool, they recognize that such a place is far more dangerous than it is beneficial, and so they swear themselves to secrecy and wipe their memories clean of that place.

You see, when you waste your energies seeking to fulfill the hunger for things that perish, what you'll find all too often is that you'll still be dissatisfied, and your dissatisfaction will usually put you deeper into the hole you're digging for yourself. Whatever piece of the pie that you're hungering for – whether it's a bigger slice of acceptance or riches or gratification of your urges – you're going to find yourself hungry for more and more and more, until you're so out of control that you can't back-peddle fast enough. In our consumer-driven world, in which many people literally work themselves to death accumulating a never-fully-satisfying abundance of things, Jesus' words challenge our society's misguided substitutes for "life." *Steve Wilkins, Are You Hungry?*

SOUL HUNGER

The next weeks in August in the revised common lectionary all deal with a single continuous story in which Jesus calls himself the "Bread of Life" and distinguishes himself from the temporary "fix" of "feel-good food."

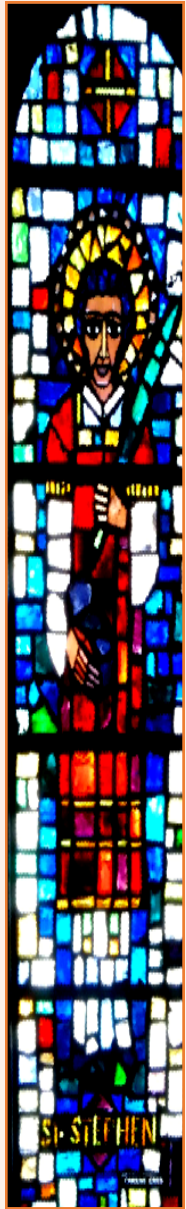
In this week's portion of the story, Jesus introduces us to that insatiable hunger inside of us that we too often attempt to pacify through numbing out strategies, such as alcohol, exercise, food, or other means. Rather than facing things head on, we often attempt to anesthetize our grief, our pain, our guilt, shame, or emptiness by filling our hearts and bellies with unhealthy things.[1]

Asian cultures like to call these unsated cravings our "hungry ghost." They envision the archetype of the "hungry ghost" as an unhealthy scrawny figure with a bloated belly from ingesting all the wrong things of the world rather than seeking spiritual fulfillment. While the concept of the "hungry ghost" steps from Asian spirituality, for Christians, the meaning resonates with what Jesus is describing in our scripture for today.

Jesus had just gotten through feeding about 10,000 people (men, women, and children) on the bank of a hillside, and now he sought some respite from the crowd following him. But they continued to seek and find him.

But for what reason?

Jesus stops in our scripture for today and confronts those following him, telling them that they are not seeking him for the right reasons....



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ST STEPHEN PARISH 2024-2025

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- | | |
|--|---|
| • Altar Servers | Giovanna Hrvatin |
| • Altar Society | Joan Leehane |
| • Bridge Group | Virginia Stefanelli |
| • 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 | Marcus Lam |
| • Newman Campus Ministry | Fr Michael Liliedahl
Victoria Connor |
| • Parish Council | Renzo Hrvatin |
| • Religious Education
(Faith Formation, RCIA, Book Club, Hospitality) | Mary Molly Mullaney |
| • Ushers | Pastor |
| • Women's Guild | Jamie Allen |

Parish Office Phone 415.681.2444

Today's Music Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- **Gathering:** Shepherd Of Souls #367
- **Preparation:** Look Beyond #322
- **Communion:** I Am the Bread Of Life #342,
Bread Of Life #328
- **Sending:** Enter The Journey #647



Prayer to St. Michael



Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.
Amen.

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, or by mailing it to the Parish Office, or by phone at 415-681-2444 or at www.saintstephensf.org

Name _____

Contact Phone (H W CP) _____

Email _____

Complete Mailing Address _____

_____ City/ZIP _____

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

You will receive in the mail within a week, a Parish Registration Form to complete the registration process. Or just get the paper Parish Registration in the vestibule. Thank you!