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.

August 25, 2024 Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Master, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

John 6:68

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



Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time August 25, 2024

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ.

We survived the first week of school! Or it is better to say, we all thrived during the first week of school!

This past Thursday, Father Michael and I participated in a priest fraternity gathering at Saint Pius X Parish in Redwood City. It is an annual gathering where all of the priests of the Archdiocese are invited to come together and spend some social time in fellowship with one another. This is important as so often when priests get together, it is usually for meetings or funerals. Getting together with family and friends is important for everyone and for

priests, it is likewise important to come together and check in with others and share what is happening in our lives. Our day consists in being able to participate in various activities, while also spending time praying together and sharing a meal together. We appreciate your support and prayers for our ministry to our parish community of Saint Stephen's.

Last week, classes began for the young scholars of our parish school. This week, classes begin for the older students at San Francisco State University. As many of you are aware, our parish is blessed to help sponsor the ministry to the college students at SFSU, and also some from City College. Father Michael was transitioned from the role of pastor so he could focus his time and talents on directing the campus ministry program. The Archbishop and all of us have a lot of hope that as the program continues to develop and grow, it will bear much fruit in the lives of our young adults as the Lord continues to do great things in their lives. If by chance you know a college student in the area, perhaps at another nearby parish, invite him or her to participate in the campus ministry program. Speaking from my own personal experience, I am grateful for the formation and support that I received from campus ministry while attending college and the transformative role it played in my life. Please pray for the ministry and the young men and women they will be serving this year. Be on the lookout in the bulletin for notices on their future activities and programs. Father Schunk

Our Saint of the Week Saint Monica

Feast day - August 27



"The child of such tears will never perish These words were a great comfort to our saint this week, St. Monica when she heard them after confiding in a priest about how often she would cry about what her son was doing. Born in Northern Africa (then part of the Roman Empire) in the 300s, St. Monica was a deeply religious

woman who married a pagan and soon had 3 children. Her oldest son would cause her the most grief as he was renowned for his intellect and charm but, much to the grief of his mother, had abandoned the faith of his childhood for worldly pleasures. Monica would spend much time praying and crying over what she saw her son becoming. But God heard her prayers and tears and in a moment of grace, her son sought out a great bishop not because of a desire to learn about the faith but rather to study the bishop's speaking style during his homilies. Later on her son would have a very powerful conversion experience that he would credit primarily to his mother's prayers. Monica's son would go on to become one of the church's greatest theologians and bishops, St. Augustine. Without St. Monica, we would never have had St. Augustine and so it is right that we celebrate both these saints on back to back days. St. Monica's feast day is August 27. St. Monica and all Holy Christian Mothers, Pray for us! Loyola Press



Join the FUN! Monday, September 9, 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



ATTENTION Parents!

Starting Sunday, September 8th, Children's Liturgy at 10:30 a.m. . Mass will resume.

Contact Mary Molly for details

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 415 681-2444x7 Or online at: donworthevents@ saintstephensf.org



Monday, Aug 26

8:00 a.m.

Tuesday, Aug 27

8:00 a.m.

Wednesday, Aug 28

8:00 a.m.

Thursday, Aug 29

8:00 a.m.

Friday, Aug 30

8:00 a.m.

Saturday, Aug 30

8:00 a.m.

4:30 p.m.

Sunday, Sep 1

8:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

6:30 p.m

Ana Caballero Sp. Int.

(By: Wilda Datangel)

† Josie Fernandes

(By: Joe Fernandes)

Charlotte & Moises Bautista

Sp. Int. (By: Bautista Family)

† Maria Conrado

By: Lydia Flocchhin)

* Maureen Cavan

(By: The O'Callaghan)

Carmelita Ysip Sp. Int.

(By: The Ysip)

Rosalio Dy Sp. Int.

(By: Africa Dy)

Therese Abraham Sp. Int.

(By: Carolyn Yiu)

St Stephen Parishioners

(By: Fr. Schunk)

† Grace Mullaney

(By: Mary Molly Mullaney)



We pray for the repose of the soul of

Rev. THOMAS HAMILTON Pastor, St Gabriel Parish

May he rest in Peace

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Joshua challenges the Israelites to serve either the Lord or other gods. They choose the Lord (Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b).

Psalm — Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (*Psalm 34*). **Second Reading** — Paul reflects on how husbands and wives should reverence and love each other (*Ephesians 5:21-32 [2a, 25-32]*).

Gospel — Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life (John 6:60-69).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

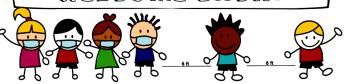
Tuesday: St. Monica
Wednesday: St. Augustine

Thursday: The Passion of St. John the Baptist

Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary; World Day of Prayer

for the Care of Creation

MERCOWE BUCKI



Stewardship: A Way of Life

Sunday Collections August 18, 2024

\$ 4,149.00 1st Collection

\$ 479.25 2nd Collection (Parish Subsidy) \$ 962.00 Special Collection (Assumption)

Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors/Readers

Liturgical Ministers' Schedule is online.

View and sign up at: www.bit.ly/LitMinSchedule

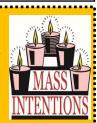
We are temporarily using Sign-up Genius website for scheduling Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors/
Readers.

Please review the schedule and sign up when you are available. Contact Mary Molly if you have issues with the schedule or using the webpage.

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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!



TEXT to GIVE

Text "SAINTSTEPHENSF" to 73256

using your mobile device.

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, 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 Barbiere, Carol Dominguez, Marc Gutierres, Catherine Scosseria, Gwendolyn Walsh, Joel Rivera, Jovita & Richard Thompson.

Please call the office to add or remove names of people

2024 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal

 PARISH GOAL
 : \$ 84,637.00

 Total Amount Received:
 \$ 26,321.00

 Week No. 25 (as of 8/20/2024)
 (74 household)

 Outstanding Balance:
 \$ 58,316.00

We thank all those families who have already made their pledge/donations to the Appeal. As of June 2024, we have reached about 30% of our goal. For the next 6 months, we pray that the balance of \$58,616 be met so that we do not pull out from our parish savings

Anonymous M/M Carlos Altamirano M/M Dale Allen Jr M/M Allan D Ayson M/M John Azevedo Ms. Constance E Benas Anne Berry & Paul Schrage Mr. Clemence Blondo Mrs. Felisa Boquiren M/M Greg Breslin Mrs Zenaida Cajilig M/M Gerald Carrillo Mr Tom Carroll Mr. Frank Cassinelli M/M Yu-Lang Chen M/M Thomas Cleary Ms Buena Cuevo Ms Alicia De Jesus Ms. Joanne Desmond M/M Glenn Dudro M/M John & Marie Duggan M/M James Dyer Jr Christian Fernandez & Leah Luistro M/M Gerard Fernandez M/M Michael Fesko M/< Kevin Fitzpatrick Msrs Sandra Frietzsche M/M Lawrence Gallagher M/M Darius Garcia M/M Gavin Garzee M/M Ryan Gille Ms. Diane Gragnani M/M William Green Jr M/M James Hargarten

M/M Lawrence Hayes

Ms Nathalia Hizon

M/M Viet Ho

Ms Joanne Hayes-White

M/M Claudio Hrvatin Ms. Cynthia G. Kelly Mr. Paul Laveroni Mrs. Karen Leach M/M Daniel Leehane M/M John Lie Rev Michael D Liliedahl Ms Pamela Mapson M/M Lawrence Mazzola Ms Joanne McGrail Mrs Gayle Montalbano Sean McGrillen & Sarah Barca Ms Jessica Montgomery Ms. Mary Molly Mullaney Mr Thomas A Mullaney Jr M/m Remidius Ojong Ms. Myrna Orais M/M Freddy Ramos Dr & Mrs Mariano Rayos M/M John Ritchie M/M Henry Sanchez M/M Emil Sayada Rev David Schunk Ms. Lutzie Sotto Mrs Virginia Stefanelli Ms Dominic Suares Ms. Peggy Teshara M/M Tom Tuohy Mrs Milagros Ubungen Mr Gregory Von Holt Jason Wong & Joji Quimbo Mrs. Maria Xavier M/M Reynaldo Ysip

Thank You!!

CHOOSE CHRIST AND "LIVE" IT!

We Christians have accepted the challenge of following the way of Christ and making choices for Christ, fortified by the Bread he gives and relying on the power of



the Holy Spirit. The Heavenly Bread and the Holy Spirit will give us the courage of our Christian convictions to accept the Church's teachings and to face ridicule, criticisms and even social isolation for our adherence to sound Christian principles in our lives. The very option or possibility of choosing for or against Jesus is repeated over and over again in the modern age. We should resolve to take a stand for Jesus and accept the consequences. We recognize, in our going to Communion, the accepting of that challenge to be totally one with Jesus. When the priest gives us Holy Communion saying, "The Body of Christ," we respond, "Amen." That "Amen," that "Yes," is not just an act of Faith in the Real Presence; it is a total commitment of ourselves to Jesus in the community of which we are members. We must accept him totally, without any conditions or reservations. Christ's thoughts and attitudes, his values, his life-view must become totally ours, and must govern and shape our lives. Above all, we are to identify with him in the offering of his Flesh and the pouring out of his Blood on the cross, the symbol of God's unutterable love for us.



Letter To The Editor

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all." This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher: "I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this. They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to Church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.

- Jane Goodall

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Reading

John 6:60-69

Simon Peter confesses his faith that Jesus alone has the words of the eternal life.



Background on the Gospel Reading

For our Gospel today we hear the conclusion of the "Bread of Life discourse" in the sixth chapter of John's Gospel. In the preceding verses, which we have heard proclaimed in our liturgy over the past few weeks, we have heard Jesus explain that he is the Bread of Life, given so that those who believe may have eternal life. This discourse follows the miracle in which Jesus fed more than five thousand people with five barley loaves and two fish. As Jesus has been teaching these things, John's Gospel describes a murmuring crowd unable to accept Jesus' words. In today's Gospel, the crowd has dwindled in number, and John no longer references them, or the Jews. Instead John describes the questioning of those considered to be Jesus' own disciples.

Today's Gospel first records the response of those in the crowd who are described as Jesus' disciples. Just as the larger crowd had struggled with Jesus' teaching, these disciples also cannot accept Jesus' words. Jesus is said to know about their murmuring. He responds by acknowledging their unbelief and by reiterating that only those chosen by the Father will follow Jesus to the end. John's Gospel reports that many of those who had been Jesus' disciples ceased to follow him at this point. The number of people following Jesus dwindled from a crowd of more than 5,000 to only 12 people. And it is to these Twelve that Jesus now turns his attention.

Simon Peter's response to Jesus' question as to whether those closest to him will also leave, reminds us of the reports of Peter's confession of faith in the Synoptic Gospels. Peter announces, on behalf of all the Twelve, that they have come to believe all that Jesus has taught about himself: Jesus is the one from God in whom they have found the path to eternal life.

This conclusion of the Bread of Life discourse focuses on personal faith in the life of Christian discipleship. Each person must make his or her own judgment about who Jesus is and in doing so determine the way of life that he or she will follow. God's grace invites us to be Jesus' disciples, but each person must respond to the grace of God and confess as his or her own the belief that Jesus is the one from God. This faith then commits us to the path of life, leading us to eternal life. *Loyola Press*

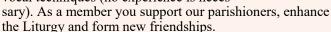
VOLUNTEER TEACHERS NEEDED

We are looking for volunteers to help teach The children' Liturgy at our Sunday 10:30 a.m. Mass. No previous experience required, just a love of your Catholic Faith and willingness to work with students. Lessons provided and training available. Contact Mary Molly in the parish office to find out more info

Courage is fear that has said its prayers.

JOIN OUR St. Stephen Choir

Please consider joining our St. Stephen Choir! The only requirements are that you love to sing, and desire to learn music and vocal techniques (no experience is neces-



The choir season begins on September 8th, the Sunday after Labor Day and ends at the beginning of June 2025. Practices are held Sunday mornings at 9:30a.m. in the Marian Room. The choir sings mostly at the 10:30a.m. Mass. Contact our Choir Director Fredrick Schaefer at his email:

fredrick.schaefer@yahoo.com

Faith Formation

Religious education classes for Children in grades 1st thru 8th who attend public schools begin Monday, September 16th @ 4:15pm in Church.

Register online: bit.ly/StStephenFF



Register online for Faith Formation

www.bit.ly/StStephenFF or scan this QR Code:



St. Stephen's Book Club

SEPTEMBER Book:

"The Case for Miracles: a Journalist Investigates Evidence for the Supernatural" by Lee Strobel

Strobel allows skeptic Michael Shermer to build a case against miracles-- and then builds a case for divine intervention in our

world today. He then shows how God remains at work in our world, sometimes openly, sometimes mysteriously, but always in ways that draw us closer to Him.

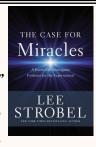
We will meet on Saturday, September 21, 10:00 a.m. in parish office.

The book is available through the SF Public Library as a book, eBook, or audiobook. www.bit.ly/Book-Sept

HUMILITY

No human being is too big to be humble, but some human beings are too small.

—Anonymous





PASTORAL STAFF

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Pastor, ext. 1

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fr.Michael@SaintStephenSF.org

Rev. Mr. Manuel "Olet" Abad Permanent Deacon deacon@SaintStephenSF.org

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Bulletin Editor, ext. 6
e.prete@SaintStephenSF.org

Today's Music Twentyfirst Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gathering: Companions On The Journey #590
Preparati: Lord, To Whom Shall We Go #419

Communion Bread Of Angels #372,

The Body Of Christ:#326

Sending: Your Words Are Spirit and Life #606

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.

ST STEPHEN PARISH 2024-2025

ORGANIZATION/MINISTRY CONTACT PERSON

Altar Servers
 Altar Society
 Bridge Group
 Caritas
 Giovanna Hrvatin
 Joan Leehane
 Virginia Stefanelli
 Nellie Hizon

 Eucharistic Lay Ministry Mary Molly Mullaney (Word & Eucharist)

Fifty Plus Club Helga D'Arcy
 Finance Council Laura Birsinger
 Front Ofc Lead Volunteer Fely Boquiren

Grief Support
 Head Sacristan
 Liturgy Committee
 Marriage Preparation
 Men's Club
 Clergy
 Marcus Lam

Newman Campus Ministry Fr Michael Liliedahl

Victoria Connor

Parish Council Renzo Hrvatin

Religious Education Mary Molly Mullaney
 (Faith Formation, RCIA, Book Club, Hospitality)

Ushers PastorWomen's Guild Jamie Allen

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

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!