

St. Stephen Parish

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

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

Weekday Mass: 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 27, 2023

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time



Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi and he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"

They replied, "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Jesus said to him in reply, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father.

"And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven.

"Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

Then he strictly ordered his disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

Matthew 16:13-20

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

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 22:19-23; Psalm 138; Romans 11:33-36; Matthew 16:30-20

In this week's Gospel reading from Matthew 16:13-20, we are presented with a profound exchange between Jesus and his disciples, one that lays the foundation for the Church's identity and mission. As Jesus and his followers journey to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he poses a pivotal question to his disciples: "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" This question prompts reflection on the various perceptions people hold about Jesus' identity. The disciples respond with the opinions circulating among the people, highlighting the diversity of interpretations.

Jesus then directs their attention to the heart of the matter, asking them directly, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter's response is an inspired declaration of faith: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." This confession becomes the bedrock upon which Jesus establishes his Church, and he names Peter as the "rock" upon which he will build his community. This passage underscores the significance of recognizing and affirming Jesus' true identity as the Son of God, and it emphasizes the pivotal role of Peter as a foundational figure within the Church.

Lesson: Embracing Our Identity and Mission

The Gospel reading invites us to reflect on our own understanding of Jesus' identity. Like the disciples, we are confronted with diverse interpretations of Christ in our modern world. As Catholics, we are called to emulate Peter's unwavering faith, acknowledging Jesus as the true Christ and Son of God. Just as Peter received the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven, we are entrusted with upholding the teachings of Christ and preserving the faith passed down through generations. This entails embracing our identity as members of Christ's Church and fulfilling our mission to spread His message of love, redemption, and salvation to all corners of the world.



Saint Exemplar: St. Athanasius – Defender of Catholic Teaching

This week, we draw inspiration from Saint Athanasius, a champion of the Catholic faith during a time of great theological turmoil. St. Athanasius ardently defended the divinity of Christ and the concept of the Holy Trinity against the Arian heresy. Despite facing exile and persecution, he fearlessly stood up for the truth, demonstrating an unwavering commitment to preserving the authentic teachings of the Church. St. Athanasius' steadfastness and dedication to orthodoxy serve as a model for us to remain resolute in our beliefs, even when faced with adversity.

In embracing our identity as Catholics and recognizing Jesus' true identity as the Son of God, let us draw strength from the example of St. Athanasius. May we uphold the teachings of our faith with the same courage and conviction, being unwavering rocks upon which the Church's foundation continues to stand firm. *Fr. Michael D. Lilledahl*

PEOPLE SEE THINGS DIFFERENTLY

People see things differently all the time. For example, three people - a minister, an archaeologist, and a cowboy - were getting their first look at the Grand Canyon one day. The minister exclaimed, "Truly this is one of the glories of God!" The archaeologist commented, "What a wonder of nature this is!" And the cowboy said, "Can you imagine trying to find a lost steer in there?" People see things differently.

The Messianic hope of those in the Jewish community who held such a belief was that the Chosen One would reestablish the supremacy of Israel among the great nations of the world. The assumption was that this would be accomplished in a violent and vengeful manner, with the forceful overthrow and total destruction of the current ruling powers. But before this happened, the prophet Elijah would return to herald the coming of the Chosen One. As a result of these hopes, Jesus had to somehow communicate to his disciples and others who had such high hopes for him that what he was offering was something completely different from what they expected.

WITHOUT THE STRUGGLE, THERE ARE NO WINGS

A family brought in two cocoons that were about to hatch. They watched as the first one began to open and the butterfly inside squeezed very slowly and painfully through a tiny hole that it chewed in one end of the cocoon. After lying exhausted for about ten minutes following its agonizing emergence, the butterfly finally flew out the open window on its beautiful new wings.

The family decided to help the second butterfly so that it would not have to go through such an excruciating ordeal. So, as it began to emerge, they carefully sliced open the cocoon with a razor blade, doing the equivalent of a Caesarean section. The second butterfly never did sprout wings, and in about ten minutes, instead of flying away, it quietly died.

The family asked a biologist friend to explain what had happened. The scientist said that the difficult struggle to emerge from the small hole actually pushes liquids from deep inside the butterfly's body cavity into tiny capillaries in the wings where they hardened to complete the healthy and beautiful adult butterfly. The lesson? **WITHOUT THE STRUGGLE, THERE ARE NO WINGS**

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

St Stephen Church provides Online Giving -- a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or recurring donation. To start visit www.saintstephensf.org and click on Giving link. When you participate, your gift will be securely transferred directly into the parish.

We Rent Our Hall

FOR ANY OCCASION
USE OUR PARTY ROOM!

Our 20,000 Sq. Ft. Parish Center Available to Rent
For more information, call Shay at 415 681-2444 x7 or donworthevents@saintstephensf.org

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Monday, Aug 28

8:00 a.m.

Charlotte & Moises *Sp.Int.*
(By: Bautista Family)

Tuesday, Aug 29

8:00 a.m.

† **Steyen Boyd**
(By: Charles Barca)

Wednesday Aug 30

8:00 a.m.

† **Patrick Hennessy**
(By: Teshara Family)

Thursday, Aug 31

8:00 a.m.

† **Rosa de Juarez**
(By: Elvia Juarez)

Friday, Sep 1

8:00 a.m.

† **William Kaehny**
(By: William Vogel)

Saturday Sep 2

8:00 a.m.

† **Paulino Dee**
(By: Ongpian Family)
Myrna Vicente *Sp.Int.*
(By: Rey & Elvie)

4:30 p.m.

Sunday, Sep 3

8:00 a.m.

Rosalio Dy *Sp. Int*
(By: Africa Dy)

10:30 a.m.

Therese Abraham *Sp. Int*
(By: Carolyn Yiu)

6:30 p.m.

St Stephen Parishioners
(By: Fr. Michael)



Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 27, 2023

“Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in Heaven; and whatever you loose on earth; shall be loosed in Heaven.”

Matthew 16:19

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading – Eliakim is destined by God to be a father to those who live in Jerusalem.” *(Isaiah 22:19-23)*

Psalm - Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands. *(Psalm 138)*

Second Reading - How deep are the riches and the knowledge and wisdom of God!. *(Romans 11:33-36)*

Gospel - Jesus asked his disciples, “Who do you say that I am?” *(Matthew 16:13-20)*

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday **Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**

Tuesday: **The Passion of Saint John the Baptist**

Friday: **First Friday**

Saturday: **Blessed Virgin Mary, First Saturday**

Sunday: **St. Gregory the Great**

THE FOUNDATION

Wisdom is the foundation, and justice the work without which a foundation cannot stand. —*St. Ambrose*



You're ALL Invited!

HOLY HOUR of EUCHARISTIC DEVOTION

Exposition, Adoration and Benediction
(Weekdays, right after the 8am Mass)

Mondays through Fridays, 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Stewardship: A Way of Life

JULY 2023

\$ 22,632.30 Sunday Collections (7/2, 9,16, 23, 30)

\$ 10,538.86 Online Sunday Collections (7/1-31)

\$ 4,173.50 Donworth Hall JULY Rental Income

\$ 37,344.67 Total Income for July 2023

LESS:

\$ 44,499.61 Parish Maintenance for JULY 2023

\$ 7,154.94 OVER/ Under

Please continue to generously support your Parish!

TEXT to GIVE

Text "SAINTSTEPHENSF" to 73256 to give using your mobile device.

50+ Club

Monday, September 11, 2023

Doors Open 12:30pm

New members are most welcome!

For any questions/ concerns, please call:

Helga at 415-731-8211

St. Stephen Choir

Do you love to sing? Would you like to sing in a group setting? Then come join our choir!

The Choir will sing at all 10:30 Masses with the Choir singing starting September 10th.

Join us at our first practice

on Sunday, Sept. 3rd -

9:15AM, Marian Room



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.

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, Marino Tulao,
Eden Finn, Edileide Jose Barbosa, Kenneth Fambrini,
Larry Barbieri, Carol Dominguez, Marc Gutierrez,
Catherine Scosseria, Gwendolyn Walsh,
Joel Rivera, Jovita & Richard Thompson.



RCIA
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

We welcome those who would like to know more about the Catholic faith or would like to become Catholic. We also welcome baptized Catholics who are seeking to receive the Sacraments of the Eucharist and Confirmation.

Is there someone in your life who is wondering what the Catholic faith is all about, or is thinking about becoming a Catholic? Perhaps that someone just needs a little push from you to embark on this faith searching journey.

The RCIA Program - the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults - welcomes anyone who is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith or would like to receive the sacraments of Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation. The program will begin September 6. Classes are usually 7:00p.m.-8:30p.m. Participants will receive the sacraments of initiation during the Easter Vigil in March 2024.

For more information please contact Mary Molly Mullaney, phone: 415.681.2444 x4 or email: FaithFormation@SaintStephenSF.org.

THE IMITATION
OF CHRIST
THOMAS À KEMPIS



St. Stephen Catholic Book Club

Our Book Club is open to anyone interested in reading and discussing books with inherent or implied Christian themes. We will meet 10:00 am Aug. 12, in the Conference Room at the parish offices. Contact Mary Molly for more information.

This month we are reading: *The Imitation of Christ*, by Thomas à Kempis, which is a Christian devotional book written in the 1400's. The text is divided into four books of detailed spiritual instructions: (1) "Helpful Counsels of the Spiritual Life", (2) "Directives for the Interior Life", (3) "On Interior Consolation", and (4) "On the Blessed Sacrament". The devotions of the books emphasize devotion to the Eucharist as the key element of spiritual life.

The Imitation of Christ is a handbook for the spiritual life and is perhaps the most widely read Christian devotional work after the Bible, and is regarded as a devotional and religious classic. The book's popularity was immediate when it was first printed and went on to be printed in many editions through the centuries. Apart from the Bible, no book had been translated into more languages than *The Imitation of Christ*.

Boy Scouts - Troop 333 - Scout N' Seek

Saturday, September 9, 2023 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Dahlia Dell Picnic Area in Golden Gate Park. Join Troop 333 for Scout N' Seek to get a taste of Scouting, learn a new skill, and have some fun! Troop members will teach orienteering, and then prospective Scouts will seek hidden troop members across the event area using orienteering skills. Troop members will also lead activities to teach fun yo-yo skills (and geared towards satisfying cub scout YoYo Adventure requirements). We have limited capacity so please RSVP your Scout and responsible adult at <https://bit.ly/Troop333RSVP>

Feel free to contact Katherine Dulany at 415-999-8603 or katherinedulany@yahoo.com for more information.

Religious Education for 1st to 8th Grade Students Attending non-Catholic Schools



Would you like your children to learn more about our Catholic faith, or to receive First Holy Communion or Confirmation? Please consider sending them to our St. Stephen Faith Formation Program.

Our Faith Formation Program runs from mid September and ends in May. We meet once a week on Monday afternoons, 4:15pm to 5:30 pm (except holidays).

This program is supported by a group of experienced and dedicated religious education teachers. They not only teach the knowledge of the Bible, the sacraments, and the church, but most importantly, they teach the students how to become faithful followers of Jesus Christ. Their goal is to teach the students to become Christ-like.

Registration form is online: <https://bit.ly/StStephenFF>

Website: saintstephensf.org/faith-formation

For more information contact Mary Molly Mullaney at FaithFormation@SaintStephenSF.org or 415.681.2444 x4.

Volunteers Needed



Interested in passing on the Catholic Faith to the next generation? Come help teach! We are looking for volunteers (students in high school, college, or adults); there are two different opportunities:

1. The Faith Formation program on Monday afternoons, serves students who attend public school or non-Catholic private school in grades 1 – 8.
2. Children's Liturgy is on Sundays during the first half of 10:30 Mass and serves the younger children, pre-school aged through first grade.

Teaching background is not required. Help spread God's Love – You can make a difference!! All materials are provided. Grab a friend and co-teach.

If interested or have any questions, please contact Mary Molly at FaithFormation@SaintStephenSF.org or call Mary at 415.681.2444 x4

2023 ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Campaign GOAL	:	\$ 86,973.00
Total Payments Received	:	\$ 45,271.00
Campaign Goal Balance	:	\$ 41,702.00

We thank the following parishioners who have shared their treasures with the parish **this week** as of 8.22.2023: (For a complete listing, refer to AAA Poster in Church vestibule.)

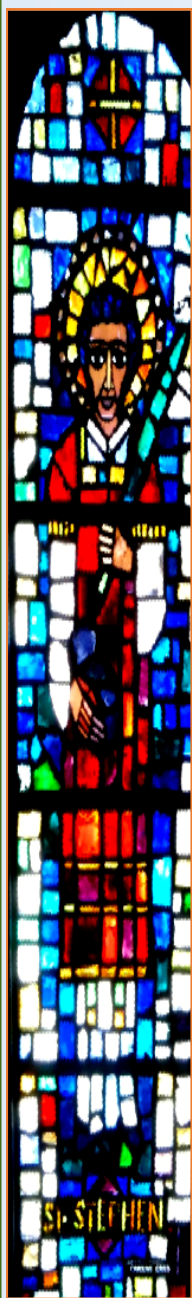
Ms Rita Hock

M/M Edward Vaughn Jones

BROKEN BRIDGES

When we cannot forgive, we break the bridge over which we must pass if we would ever reach heaven; for everyone has need to be forgiven.

—George Herbert



PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Michael Liliedahl
Pastor, ext. 1
Fr.Michael@SaintStephenSF.org

Rev. Ben Rosado
Parochial Vicar, ext. 8
frbenrosado@gmail.com

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

Sharon McCarthy Allen
Principal

Carol P Cagalingan
Parish Manager, ext. 3
carol@SaintStephenSF.org

Mary Molly Mullaney
Faith Formation, ext. 4
faithformation@SaintStephenSF.org

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donworthevents@SaintStephenSF.org

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Bookkeeper, ext. 5
teresa@SaintStephenSF.org

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

ST STEPHEN PARISH 2023-2024

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 Liliedahl |
| • Marriage Preparation | Clergy |
| • Men's Club | Marcus Lam |
| • Parish Council | Vicky Francisco |
| • RCIA | Mary Molly Mullaney |
| • St. Stephen Book Club | Mary Molly Mullaney |
| • Ushers | Jim Scheg |
| • Women's Guild | Jamie Allen
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, or by mailing it to the Parish Office, or 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, Holy Communion Minister, Parish Center Front Office Volunteer.

August 27, 2023

Song Lyrics for 10:30 am Mass

Gathering: You Are My All In All

You are my strength when I am weak
You are the treasure that I seek
You are my all in all
Seeking you as a precious jewel
Lord, to give up I'd be a fool
You are my all in all
Taking my sin, my cross, my shame
Rising again I bless your name
You are my all in all
When I fall down you pick me up
When I am dry you fill my cup
You are my all in all
Jesus Lamb of God, worthy is your name
Jesus Lamb of God, worthy is your name

Offertory: Come As You Are

Come out of sadness
From wherever you've been
Come broken-hearted
Let rescue begin
Come find your mercy
O sinner, come kneel
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't heal
Lay down your burdens
Lay down your shame
All who are broken lift up your face
O wanderer come home, it's not too far
So lay down your hurt
Lay down your heart
Come as you are
There's hope for the hopeless
And all those who've strayed
Come sit at the table, come taste the grace
There's rest for the weary, rest that endures
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't cure
Chorus
Come as you are
Come as you are
Fall in his arms
Come as you are
There's joy for the morning, O sinner be still
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't heal (2x)
Chorus (repeat last line)

Communion: Your Love Defends Me

You are my joy, you are my song
You are the well, the one I'm drawing from
You are my refuge my whole life long
Where else would I go
Surely my God is the strength of my soul
Your love defends me
Your love defends me
And when I feel like I'm all alone
Your love defends me
Your love defends me
Day after day, night after night
I will remember you're with me in this fight
Although the battle, it rages on
The war is already won,
I know the war is already won
Chorus
We sing Hallelujah
You're my portion, my salvation
Hallelujah
Chorus
We sing Hallelujah
You're my portion, my salvation
Hallelujah
You're my portion, my salvation
Hallelujah
You're my portion, my salvation

Sending: 10.000 Reasons

The sun comes up
It's a new day dawning
It's time to sing your song again
Whatever may pass
And whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes
Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul
Worship his Holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul
I worship your Holy name
You're rich in love and you're slow to anger
Your name is great and your heart is kind
For all your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find
Chorus