

# 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.

September 17, 2023

**Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



# How Many Times?

Matthew 18:21-35

Then Peter approaching asked him, “Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive him? As many as seven times?”

Jesus answered, “I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times.

That is why the kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who decided to settle accounts with his servants.

When he began the accounting, a debtor was brought before him who owed him a huge amount. Since he had no way of paying it back, his master ordered him to be sold, along with his wife, his children, and all his property, in payment of the debt. At that, the servant fell down, did him homage, and said, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you back in full.’ Moved with compassion the master of that servant let him go and forgave him the loan.

When that servant had left, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a much smaller amount.\* He seized him and started to choke him, demanding, ‘Pay back what you owe.’ Falling to his knees, his fellow servant begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.’ But he refused. Instead, he had him put in prison until he paid back the debt. Now when his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were deeply disturbed, and went to their master and reported the whole affair.

His master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to. Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?’ Then in anger his master handed him over to the torturers until he should pay back the whole debt.\*

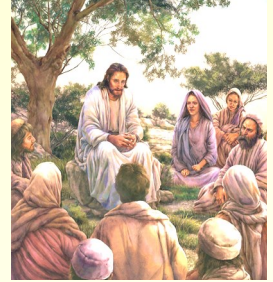
So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives his brother from his heart.” .... *Matthew 18:21-35*

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

## Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sirach 27:30-28; Psalm 103; Romans 14:7-9; Matthew 18:21-35

Today's Gospel reading directly follows [last week's Gospel](#) in which Jesus taught the disciples how to handle disputes and conflict within the Christian community. In today's reading Peter asks Jesus how many times one ought to extend forgiveness to another. Peter proposes a reasonable number of times, perhaps seven. Jesus replies by extending Peter's proposal by an enormous amount; not just seven times should one forgive, but 77 times. The parable of the unforgiving servant is Jesus' elaboration of his initial reply to Peter. Through the parable we come to understand the depths of God's mercy toward us and the results of our acceptance of God's forgiveness.



The king in the parable decides to settle accounts with his servants. We are told that one servant in particular owes the king an enormous sum of money. Despite the promise of the servant, it is unlikely that he would ever be able to repay the debt that he owes. The king is moved by the humility of the pleading servant and mercifully forgives the debt. Rather than displaying gratitude for this forgiveness, the servant confronts a fellow servant who owes him a small debt—a pittance when compared with the amount that was owed to the king. The unmerciful servant refuses the pleas of his fellow servant and sends the servant to prison.



A few other servants tell the merciful king about the actions of the unforgiving servant. The king punishes the servant because he refused to show the kind of mercy he had himself received from the king. Jesus concludes by indicating that this is how it will be with God and those who refuse to forgive one another.

There is a temptation to quantify forgiveness as Peter tried to do, but Jesus' point is that forgiveness is not about quantity—the number of times we extend forgiveness to another. In the parable the king's forgiveness is like God's forgiveness, and it transforms us, helping us to be as forgiving as God. The lesson is clear: If we hoard God's mercy while showing no mercy to others, we risk forfeiting the effects of God's mercy in our lives.

### September 21 - Saint Matthew



Matthew must have been surprised when Jesus walked up to him and said, "Follow me." He probably fell off the stool in his customs booth!

Matthew, also known as Levi, was a tax collector in the town of Capernaum. Most tax collectors were hated by the Jews because they worked for the Romans, who had conquered the land. A tax collector could use his position honestly or dishonestly. The temptation to use the position to become rich was great. Now do you think the choice of Matthew was surprising?

Yet Jesus chose a tax collector to follow him, to learn from him, and to go out and spread the Good News to others. The call from Jesus was more powerful than the call of wealth. Matthew left his work as tax collector. He invited Jesus to a dinner where other tax collectors (publicans) and sinners were gathered.

The Pharisees were upset when they saw this, and they said to the disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" Jesus heard them and replied, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous, but sinners." (See Matthew 9:9-13.)

We know nothing other than that about Matthew from the Scriptures, but we do know that Matthew preached the Good News of Christ, and at least part of the Gospel attributed to him was first written for the Jewish converts in Palestine. There is some uncertainty about where Matthew preached and where and how he died. Some say Matthew went to Persia; some say Syria and Greece, while others say Ethiopia. Yet we can learn much from Matthew. He was a man who knew quite well the power of money. He knew the comfort it could ensure, the recreation it could buy, the luxury it could provide. But he was wise enough to know what it could not do. Money could never give him that sense of peace deep inside. It could never befriend him when he was lonely or give him the strength and courage to go on when all else seemed lost. Money could never buy him forgiveness or love. But the love of Christ could do all this and more.

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GIVING**  
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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](http://www.saintstephensf.org), click on Giving link. When you participate, your gift will be securely transferred directly into the parish.

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For more information,  
call Shay at 415 681-2444 x7  
or [donworthevents@saintstephensf.org](mailto:donworthevents@saintstephensf.org)

# Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



## Monday, Sep 18

8:00 a.m.

**Marina Moritz** *Sp. Int.*  
(By: Elvia Juarez)

## Tuesday, Sep 19

8:00 a.m.

**A Friend** *Sp. Int.*  
(By: Terry Mullaney)

## Wednesday Sep 20

8:00 a.m.

† **Thomas & Vivian Mullaney**  
(By: Mary Molly & Marilyn Mullaney)

## Thursday, Sep 21

8:00 a.m.

† **Robert Puts**  
(By: Liam Frost)

## Friday, Sep 22

8:00 a.m.

† **John Libby**  
(By: Kathleen Jordan)

## Saturday Sep 23

8:00 a.m.

† **Lavio Lucas Benitez**  
(By: Boquiren Family)  
**St Stephen Parishioners**  
(By: Fr. Michael)

4:30 p.m.

## Sunday, Sep 24

8:00 a.m.

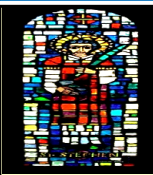
† **Teresa Devincenzi** *Sp. Int.*  
(By: Parish Staff & Volunteers)

10:30 a.m.

† **Jaqueline Thompson**  
(By: Thompson & Bautista Family)

6:30 p.m.

† **Ferdinan Fernandez**  
(By: Dori Campbell)



September 17, 2023

*Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

The Lord is kind and merciful, Slow to anger and rich in compassion. (*Psalms 103*)

### TODAY'S READING

**First Reading:** Remember the commandment sand hate noy your neighbor. (*Sirach 27:30-28*)

**Psalm:** The Lord is kind and merciful, Slow to anger and rich in compassion. (*Psalms 103*)

**Second Reading:** Whether we live or whether we die, we do so for the Lord. (*Romans 14:7-9*)

**Gospel:** - Forgive one another from your heart. (*Matthew 18:21-35*)

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Tuesday: **St. Januarius, Bishop and Martyr**

Wednesday: **St. Andrew Kim Tag-gon ,Paul ChongHa-Sang and Companions Martyrs**

Thursday: **St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist**

Friday: **St. Thomas of Villanova**

Saturday: **St. Padre Pio**

**St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest:**



You're ALL Invited!

**HOLY HOUR of**

**EUCCHARISTIC DEVOTION**

**Exposition, Adoration and Benediction**

(Weekdays, right after the 8am Mass)

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

**Anointing of the Sick at Mass**

**10:30 A.M.**

**Sunday, October 15**

**Stewardship: A Way of Life**

**AUGUST 2023**

\$ 19,283.93 Sunday Collections (8/6, 13, 20, 27)

\$ 11,285.81 Online Sunday Collections (8/1-30)

\$ 14,043.50 Donworth Hall AUGUST Rental Income

\$ **44,613.24** **Total Income for August 2023**

**LESS:**

\$ 27,800.52 Parish Maintenance for AUGUST 2023

\$ **16,812.72** **OVER/ Under**

*Please continue to generously support your Parish!*

### TEXT to GIVE

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

### 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.

Interested? contact [1dognpony@gmail.com](mailto:1dognpony@gmail.com)



## Sick Relatives & Friends

**P**lease 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 Barbriere, Carol Dominguez, Marc Gutierrez,  
Catherine Scosseria, Gwendolyn Walsh,  
Joel Rivera, Jovita & Richard Thompson.

## FORGIVENESS WRITTEN in STONE.

A story is told of two friends who were walking through the desert. During some point of the journey they had an argument, and one friend slapped the other one in the face. The one who got slapped was hurt, but without saying anything, wrote in the sand, "Today my best friends slapped me in the face."

They kept on walking until they found an oasis, where they decided to take a bath. The one who had been slapped got stuck in the mire and started drowning, but the friend saved him. After he recovered from nearly drowning, he wrote on a stone, "Today my best friend saved my life."

His friend asked him, "After I hurt you, you wrote in the sand and now, you write on a stone, why?" The other friend replied "When someone hurts us we should write it down in sand where winds of forgiveness can erase it away. But, when someone does something good for us, we must engrave it in stone where no wind can ever erase it."

So real forgiveness keeps on leaving the sins of others and our hurts in the past. Yet Jesus understands the difficulty of such forgiveness. To keep on forgiving is a God-like characteristic. It is contrary to human nature. So He gives a parable beginning in v.23 which will help us obey His commandment to keep on forgiving.

*Stephen Felker, How Often Should I Forgive?*

## CONTINUE TO CHANGE

When you're through changing, you're through.

—Anonymous

### San Francisco State University Newman Club

Join the SFSU Newman Club for Mass and fellowship Thursday nights from 7-9. We will meet for Mass in the church and will move to the rectory after.

**September 21 Movie Night**  
**September 28 Game Night**

Please also join us Sundays at 6:30 for student Mass with free dinner after! All SFSU and surrounding community college students are welcome! Contact Victoria with any questions! [victoria.connor@focus.org](mailto:victoria.connor@focus.org)



### 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 meet the second Saturday at 10:00 am in the Conference Room at the parish offices. Contact Mary Molly for more information.

Books we are reading:

**September** - *Seven Women And the Secret of Their Greatness*  
by Eric Metaxas

**October** - *Personal Recollections of Joan of Arc*  
by Mark Twain (1835-1910)

**November & December** - *Jesus: a Pilgrimage*  
by James Martin, S.J.

**January, 2024** - *Searching for and Maintaining Peace*  
by Father Jacques Philippe



## 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 a Catholic. We also welcome baptized Catholics who are seeking to receive the Sacraments of the Eucharist and Confirmation.**

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

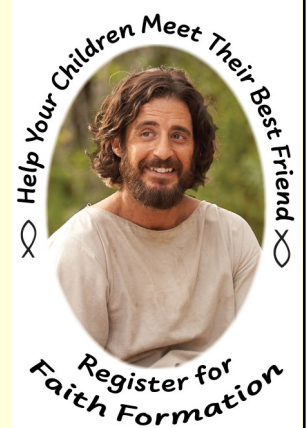
Is there someone in your life who is wondering what the Catholic faith is all about, or is thinking about becoming a Catholic? Perhaps that someone just needs a little push from you to embark on this faith searching journey.

### Religious Education for 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students Attending non-Catholic Schools

It's not too late to register for Faith Formation classes. We provide religious education for students who attend public schools, in grades 1-8. We meet on Mondays from 4:15 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the parish. Please register online:

[bit.ly/StStephenFF](http://bit.ly/StStephenFF)

Contact Mary Molly with questions.



### 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).



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.

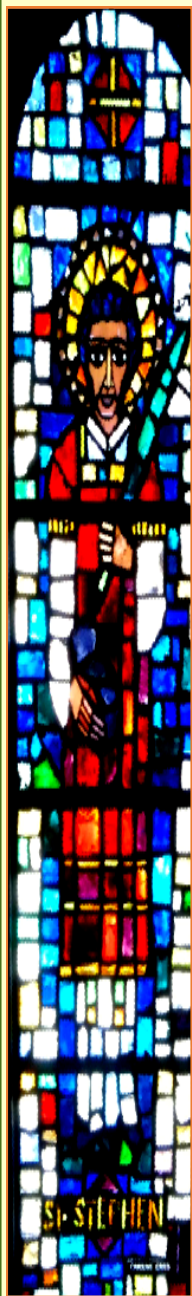
If interested or have any questions, please contact Mary Molly at [FaithFormation@SaintStephenSF.org](mailto:FaithFormation@SaintStephenSF.org) or call Mary at 415.681.2444 x4

### 2023 ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Campaign GOAL	:	\$ 86,973.00
Total Payments Received	:	\$ 46,621.00
Campaign Goal Balance	:	\$ 40,352.00

We thank the following parishioners who have shared their treasures with the parish **this week** as of 9.12.2023:  
(For a complete listing, refer to AAA Poster in Church vestibule.)

M/M Ding Cagalingan Jr      Fr. Michael D Lilledahl  
M/M Viet Ho



## 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

**Shay Ingelfinger**  
*Event Center Coordinator, ext. 7*  
 donworthevents@SaintStephenSF.org

**Teresa Devincenzi**  
*Bookkeeper, ext. 5*  
 teresa@SaintStephenSF.org

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

## ST STEPHEN PARISH 2023-2024

<u>ORGANIZATION/MINISTRY</u>	<u>CONTACT PERSON</u>
------------------------------	-----------------------

- |                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| • 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<br>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](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, Holy Communion Minister, Parish Center Front Office Volunteer.

September 17, 2023

## Song Lyrics for 10:30 am Mass

### **Gathering:** Lord, I Need You

Lord, I come, I confess, Bowing here I find my rest  
Without you I fall apart  
You're the one that guides my heart Lord,  
I need you, oh I need you Every hour I need you  
My one defense, my righteousness O God, how I  
need you  
Where sin runs deep, your grace is more Where grace  
is found, is where you are Where you are, Lord I am  
free  
Holiness is Christ in me Chorus  
*Bridge:*  
*Teach* my song to rise to you  
When temptation comes my way  
When I cannot stand I fall on you  
Jesus you're my hope and stay  
Chorus (with repeat last line)  
**Glory To God** (Spirit & Grace setting)  
In Breaking Bread Hymnal #924

### **Preparation of Gifts:** Purify My Heart

Purify my heart  
Let me be as gold and precious silver  
Purify my heart  
Let me be as gold...pure gold  
Refiners fire, my heart's one desire Is to e...holy, set  
apart for you Lord I choose to be...holy  
Set apart for you my master Ready to do your will  
Purify my heart  
Cleanse me from within and make me holy Purify my  
heart  
Cleanse me from my sin, deep within Chorus  
(Repeat chorus)

**Mass Parts:** (Spirit & Grace setting)  
In Breaking Bread hymnal #927-932

### **Communion:** Remembrance

Oh how could it be  
That my God would welcome me Into this mystery  
Say take this bread, take this wine Now the simple  
made divine (*Remembrance cont.*)  
For any to receive  
By your mercy we come to your table By your grace  
you are making us faithful  
Lord we remember you

And remembrance leads us to worship And as we wor-  
ship you  
Our worship leads to Communion We respond to  
your invitation We remember you  
See his body, his blood Know that he has

overcome Every trial that we will face And none  
too lost to be saved None too broken or ashamed All  
are welcome in this place  
Pre-chorus  
Chorus  
*Bridge:*  
Dying you destroyed our death  
Rising you restored our life Lord  
Jesus come in glory (4X)  
Chorus

### **Sending:** Lord I Lift Your Name

Lord I lift your name on high Lord I love to sing  
your praises I'm so glad you're in my life I'm so  
glad you came to save us You came from heaven to  
earth To show the way  
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay  
From the cross to the grave,  
From the grave to the sky Lord I lift your name on  
high

### **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, thrust  
into hell Satan and all evil spirits  
who wander through the world for  
the ruin of souls. Amen.

*Pope Leo XIII 1810-1903)*



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**SATURDAY, OCT. 14**  
**PARISH MOVIE NIGHT**  
**MORE INFO TO COME**

### **50+ Club**

**Monday, October 2, 2023**  
**Doors Open 12:30pm**  
New members are most welcome!  
For any questions/ concerns, please call:  
Helga at 415-731-8211