

St. Stephen Parish

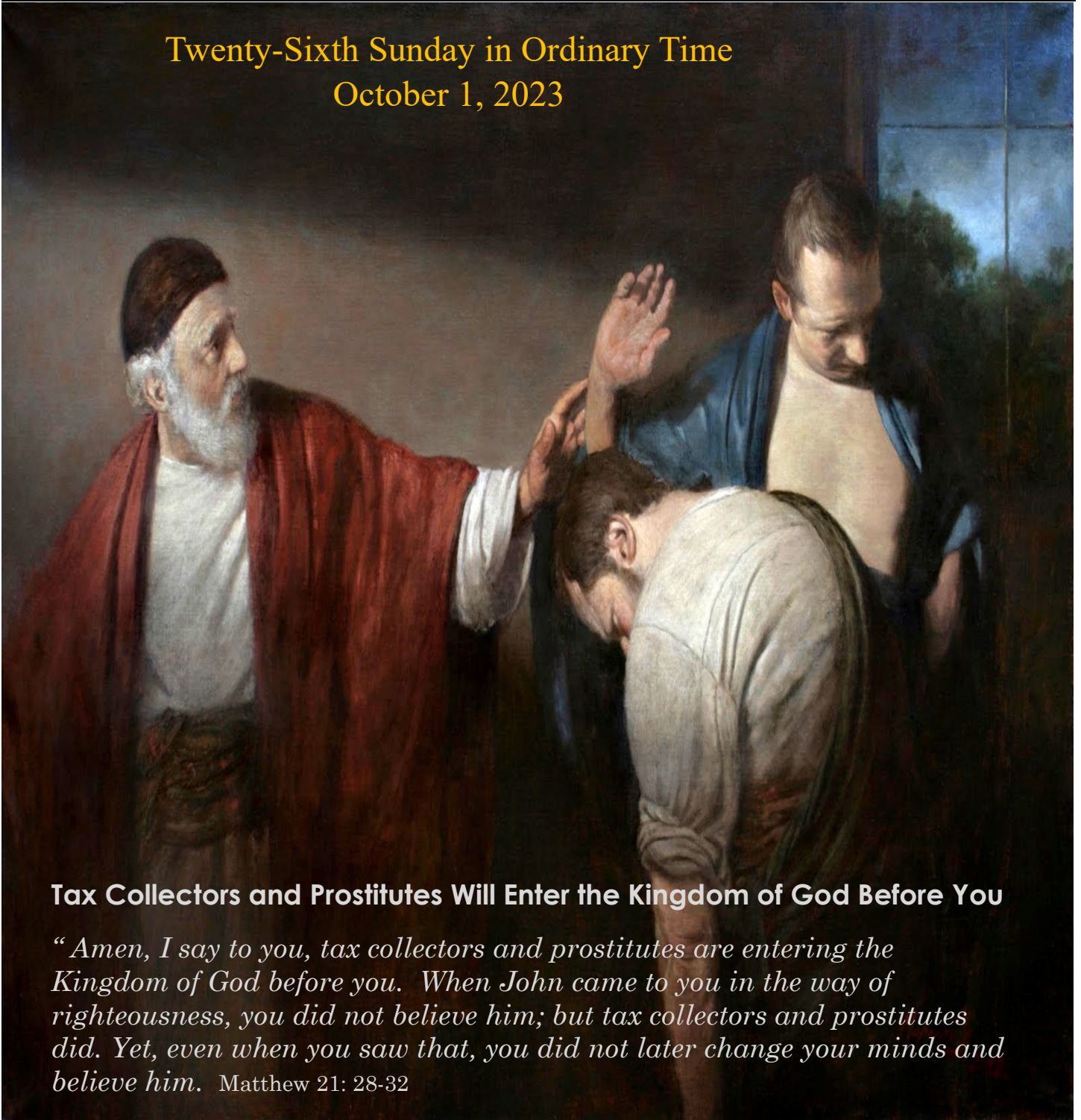
SaintStephenSF.org | 451 Eucalyptus Dr., San Francisco CA 94132 | Church 415 681-2444

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.

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 1, 2023



Tax Collectors and Prostitutes Will Enter the Kingdom of God Before You

“Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the Kingdom of God before you. When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax collectors and prostitutes did. Yet, even when you saw that, you did not later change your minds and believe him. Matthew 21: 28-32

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

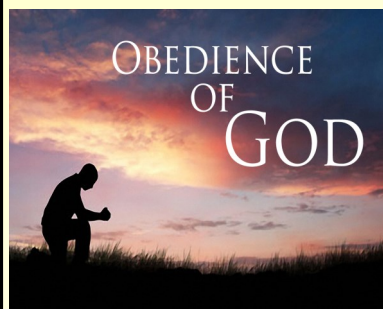
Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ezekiel 18:25-28, Psalm 25:4-9, Philippians 2:1-11, Matthew 21:28-32

The context for today's Gospel is the mounting tension between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders. Jesus has entered Jerusalem and overturned the money changers' tables in the Temple. Jesus has caught the attention of the religious authorities; the chief priests and elders question Jesus about the source of his authority. Jesus refuses to name for these religious leaders the source of his authority. Instead, he questions the priests and elders through the parable we hear in today's Gospel. The answer given by the religious leaders is correct, but it convicts them for their failure to heed the call of John the Baptist and for their inability to recognize the Kingdom of God.



The situation Jesus poses is rather straightforward. Given the same task by their father, one son asserts his disobedience in words, but then obeys in his actions; the second son obeys with his words, but disobeys in his actions. The question that Jesus poses is pointed and direct: Which son did what the father wanted? All would agree that "actions speak louder than words" and that even if his words were disobedient, the son who did the work as ordered did the father's will.



Jesus' conclusion is also direct. The chief priests and elders, the ones who speak most often about God, did not act accordingly. They did not respond to the message of repentance announced by John the Baptist with a change of heart. Instead, John's message was heeded by those one would not expect to repent—tax collectors, prostitutes, and other sinners. Because of their actions, these sinners will enter the Kingdom of God ahead of the religious leaders.

Jesus could ask us the same question. Do our words indicate our obedience to God? If not our words, do our actions? God desires a full conversion of heart, that our actions (and our words as well) will give evidence of our love for God.

October 4, 2023 - Saint Francis of Assisi



The popular image of St. Francis of Assisi is warped with romantic notions. Many see him as a sweet simpleton who picked flowers and talked with animals. Francis was gentle and loved God's creation, but he was not naive. Just the opposite.

As a youth he went to war eagerly, patiently endured imprisonment and illnesses, embraced Lady Poverty as his bride, and gave up everything to follow Christ. The real St. Francis of Assisi was a courageous spiritual warrior. Francis's vocation cost him dearly. Decision by decision he stripped himself of attachments so as to be more like Jesus. Once en route to a war in southern Italy, Francis heard a divine voice invite him to stop serving the servant and dedicate himself to the master. He responded by committing himself to live for God alone.

In his early twenties Francis decided to become like the poor he met in Assisi's back streets and took "Lady Poverty" as his bride. Then one day when Francis was praying in the dilapidated church of St. Damian, he heard a voice from the crucifix say, "Go and repair my church." At first Francis literally worked to fix the building, but later understood that his real call was to renew people spiritually. From that day Francis devoted himself to Christ crucified. Francis's father took him to the bishop's court, demanding that his son repay the money he had used to repair St. Damian's church building. The saint submitted, but then stripped naked, returning his clothes to his father as a sign that he forsook his family and his inheritance.

Then Francis began his itinerant ministry in central Italy, attracting young followers as he went. Once in 1209 at Mass he heard the gospel about Jesus sending his disciples to preach, to heal, and to do spiritual warfare. He took it literally as a life pattern for him and his band of men (see Matthew 10:7-10). In 1210, Francis got formal approval for his community of Friars Minor from Pope Innocent III, and by 1221 he had hundreds of brothers and had established friaries all over Europe. In 1224 at his retreat on Mount Alvernia, Francis had a vision of a seraph, a great angel, nailed to a cross. As he watched, Francis himself received the stigmata. Replicas of the Savior's wounds appeared in his hands and side, acknowledging the saint's intimacy with Christ. The movement Francis launched has reverberated through the centuries, touching millions of souls. He died in 1226.

**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, 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, Oct 2

8:00 a.m.

Alaia Dean *Sp. Int.*
(By: Papa & Mama)

Tuesday, Oct 3

8:00 a.m.

† **Peggy Reddington**
(By: Alcock McAtamney Family)

Wednesday Oct 4

8:00 a.m.

Belinda Mistica *Sp. Int.*
(By: Parish Staff & Volunteers)

Thursday, Oct 5

8:00 a.m.

† **Linda Rodriguez**
(By: Carolyn Yiu)

Friday, Oct 6

8:00 a.m.

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

Saturday Oct 7

8:00 a.m.

† **Martha Joanes**
(By: Joe & Josie Fernandes)

4:30 p.m.

† **Zenaida Sangalang**
(By: Sangalang Family)

Sunday, Oct 8

8:00 a.m.

† **John Vincent Prete**
(By: Prete Family)

10:30 a.m.

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

6:30 p.m.

St Stephen Parishioners
(By: Fr. Michael)



October 1, 2023

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Turn to the Lord for mercy. to our God, who is generous and forgiving. *(Isaiah 55:7b)*

TODAY'S READING

First Reading Ezekiel 18:25-28

It is possible to turn from sin and preserve one's life.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 25:4-9

A prayer to God for mercy.

Second Reading Philippians 2:1-11 (shorter form Philippians 2:1-5) Be like Christ who humbled himself and was exalted by God.

Gospel Reading *Matthew 21:28-32*

Jesus poses a question to the chief priests and elders on the meaning of obedience.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday	Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus
Monday	The Holy Guardian Angels
Tuesday	Saint Mother Théodore Guérin
Wednesday	Saint Francis of Assisi
Thursday	Saint Faustina Kowalska Blessed Francis Xavier
Friday	Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher Saint Bruno, First Friday
Saturday	Our Lady of the Rosary



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

Sunday, October 15

10:30 A.M.

TODAY!

Sunday, October 1st

St. Stephen's Celebration of

The Feast of St. Francis

Mass is being celebrated outside on the plaza



We welcome your pets for the blessing of the animals which will take place at the conclusion of the celebration of mass

50+ Club

Tomorrow! Monday, October 2, 2023

Doors Open 12:30pm

New members are most welcome!

**For any questions/ concerns, please call:
Helga at 415-731-8211**

TEXT to GIVE

Text **"SAINTSTEPHENSEF"** to **73256** to give 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.

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.

Please call the office to add or remove names of people that we should pray for this month.

HELP THE HOMELESS IN SAN FRANCISCO

Winter Faith Shelter Walk 2023

**REGISTER OR DONATE AT:
GO.DOJIGGY.IO/SHELTERWALK**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

Proceeds from the San Francisco Interfaith Council's Winter Faith Shelter Walk provide the SFIC capacity to support its core mission, the Interfaith Winter Shelter, a critical program which provides shelter and meals for up to 80 homeless San Franciscans nightly during the cold and rainy winter months.

For more information, contact:
John Ahlbach at: jahlbach@gmail.com / 650-296-0996.

LOCATION: LAKE MERCED (MEET IN PARKING LOT AT END OF SUNSET BLVD.) **REGISTRATION IS AT NOON. WALK BEGINS AT 1 PM. DISTANCE: 4 TO 4 1/2 MILES.**







San Francisco State University Newman Club

Join the SFSU Newman Club for Newman Nights every Thursday from 6-8 pm. We will meet for Mass in the church and will move to the rectory for fellowship after.

- October 5 **Adoration and Praise**
- October 12 **Dinner at Stonestown Mall**
- October 19 **SEEK24 Party!**
- October 26 **Pumpkin Painting** (come dressed in a costume!)

Please also join us Sundays at 6:30 for student Mass with fellowship dinner after at no cost to you!

- **Way of the Disciple Retreat October 20-22.** Talk to a FOCUS Missionary for more information.
- Come encounter beauty, truth, and goodness at SEEK24! **SEEK** is a national Catholic conference January 1-5 in St. Louis, Missouri featuring renowned speakers, entertainment, prayer, and community with thousands of college students and young adults. You are called to be the light of the world—come and see how Christ wants to change your life! *Join the Newman Club for this transformative experience.*

All SFSU and surrounding community college students are welcome! For any questions, email 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:

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



FOOD Friends Volunteers Needed!

The FOOD Friends team of the Order of Malta is seeking enthusiastic home cooks to participate in a monthly service opportunity. The team prepares and delivers meals to needy San Francisco families.

What You Can Do:

- Choose an item from the monthly menu and prepare portions of that item in your own home.
- Volunteer drivers will pick up the food item from you, if you are unable to deliver to the service venue.

When You Can Volunteer:

You can volunteer whenever you have free time. There is no obligation to participate from month-to-month.

Who Can Volunteer:

- Members, provisional members of the Order
- Non-members of the Order

How to Get Involved:

Contact Kevin White at kevinjwhite86@gmail.com to learn more and sign up

Why Volunteer:

- Make a difference in the lives of others. Share your love of cooking with others.
- Be a part of a team that is making a difference in the community.

Religious Education for 1st to 8th 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

Contact Mary Molly with questions at 415.681.2444 x4 or FaithFormation@SaintStephenSF.org

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



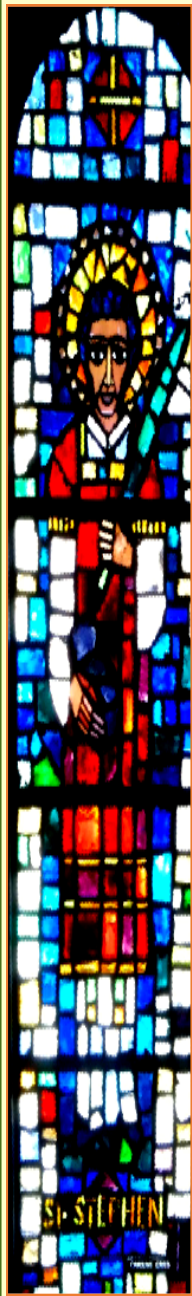
2023 ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Campaign GOAL	:	\$ 86,973.00
Total Payments Received	:	\$ 46,871.00
Campaign Goal Balance	:	\$ 40,102.00

We thank the following parishioners who have shared their treasures with the parish **this week** as of 9.26.2023:

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

NO Donor this week



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

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.

October 1, 2023

Song Lyrics for 10:30 am Mass

Gathering: Here I Am To Worship

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore you
Hope of a life spent with you
Here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that you're my God
You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me
King of all days, Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly you came to the earth you created.
All for love's sake became poor
Chorus
Bridge:
I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross (2x)
Chorus

Offertory: Open My Eyes

Open my eyes Lord, help me to see your face
Open my eyes Lord, help me to see
Open my ears Lord, help me to hear your voice
Open my ears Lord, help me to hear
Open my heart Lord, help me love like you
Open my heart Lord, help me to love
And the first shall be last
And our eyes are opened
And we'll hear like never before
And we'll speak in new ways
And we'll see God's face
In places we've never known
I live within you, deep in your heart O love
I live within you, rest now in me
Open my eyes Lord, help me to see your face
Open my eyes Lord, help me to see

Communion: How Great Is Our God

The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty
Let all the earth rejoice, let all the earth rejoice
He wraps himself in light
And darkness tries to hide
And trembles at his voice, trembles at his voice
How great is our God
How great is our God
How great, how great, is our God
And age to age he stands
And time is in his hands
Beginning and the end, beginning and the end
The Godhead three in one
Father, Spirit, One
The lion and the lamb, the lion and the lamb
Chorus
Bridge {2x}:
Name above all names, worthy of all praise
My heart will sing, "How great is our God"
How great is our God
How great is our God
How great, how great is our God

Sending: Shout To The Lord

My Jesus, my Savior
Lord there is none like you
All of my days, I want to praise
The wonders of your mighty love
My comfort, my shelter
Tower of refuge and strength
Let every breath, all that I am
Never cease to worship you
Shout to the Lord
All the earth let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King
Mountains bow down
And the seasons will roar
At the sound of your name
I sing for joy at the work of your hands
Forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand
Nothing compares
To the promise I have in you (2x)

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)



Come one, Come all!

St Stephen Parish presents
FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT
featuring: *The Princess Bride*

Showing starts 7:00PM @ Donworth Hall

POPCORN on the house!

Bring your own chair, blankets, mats or anything that will make you comfortable while watching a movie with your family & friends! This is a parish community fun event that will surely warm your heart!

Non-alcoholic drinks & candies available for sale