

Saint Stephen Parish

SaintStephenSF.org | 601 Eucalyptus Dr., San Francisco CA 94132 | Church 415 681-2444

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

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

Reconciliation: Saturday 3:30—4:40 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.



Second Sunday of ***Advent***

December 8, 2024

**Up, Jerusalem! stand upon the heights;
look to the east and see your children gathered
from the east and the west at the word of the Holy One,
rejoicing that they are remembered by God.**

Baruch 5:5



**Pastor's
Corner**

Second Sunday of Advent December 8, 2024

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I pray all of you had a restful and enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday last week. It was great to meet your family members at church who were visiting from out of town and/or students coming home from college.

Next Sunday (December 15) after the 10:30 AM Mass, the Saint Stephen's Men's Club will be sponsoring their annual pancake breakfast in the hall. All are invited to attend the breakfast but you must purchase tickets in advance for planning purposes. Please see the announcement in the bulletin for more information.

One of the backend projects the parish office has begun to work on is transitioning to a new company to manage our parish database and online giving platform. Eventually, we are looking to use the same company to manage our offertory envelopes. I believe the new integrated platform will improve our office workflow and also be a small cost savings for our parish. The part you all will eventually experience is in the online giving platform. We are planning to start that transition period in January 2025. More information will follow when we are ready to begin the process which will occur over the period of a couple of months.

A final call for donations for the Advent Giving Tree benefitting the Healing WELL. Also, thank you for the signups for the winter shelter program. All of this shows the generosity of our parish community and recognizing Christ in others.

Blessings on our young people who celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time last week. Even though they are young, it is a great moment for them to experience the boundless mercy of God and receive his grace in their lives.

Monday, December 9 is a Holy Day of Obligation for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (moved because it falls on a Sunday this year). We will have our regular holy day schedule of Masses at 8:00 AM, 11:00 AM (school Mass), and 6:30 PM.

Father Schunk

Our Saint of the Week Saint John of the Cross (c. 1542-1591)

John's father had been disowned by his wealthy Spanish family when he married a poor weaver rather than a woman of equal economic status. Living in poverty proved to be too much for him, and he died shortly after John was born. John spent much of his youth in an orphanage, where he was clothed, fed, and given an elementary education. At the age of 17, he found a job in a hospital and was accepted into a Jesuit college. In 1563 he entered the Carmelite Order. Eventually he enrolled in another university, where he did so well that he was asked to teach a class and to help settle disputes.



When he met Teresa of Ávila and learned from her about the reform of the Carmelite Order, John decided to help with it. As part of this decision, he wore sandals instead of shoes and lived very simply in prayer and solitude. In 1577 the attitude toward the reform shifted.

John was caught up in a misunderstanding and imprisoned at Toledo, Spain. During those months of darkness in that little cell, John could have become bitter, revengeful, or filled with despair. But instead, he kept himself open to God's action, for no prison could separate him from God's all-embracing love. During this time he had many beautiful experiences and encounters with God in prayer. Later he would describe these experiences in poetry. In 1578 John escaped to southern Spain to join the reformed Carmelites. There he held leadership positions and wrote reflections on his experiences, which showed his deep spirit of prayer. When he became ill, he chose to go to the city of Ubeda, where no one knew him. It was there that he died.

The Giving Tree

We are collecting gifts for the Healing WELL that serves people in the Tenderloin, and the poor of the parish. On the bulletin board in the vestibule of the church look for the gift tags that list items we are collecting, such as:

- * **Pajamas for Men or Women** (size Med. or Large)
- * **Art Supplies** (Markers, Crayons, Colored Pencils, Art Notebooks & Pads, Puzzle & Coloring Books For Adults)
- * **Gift Cards** (Trader Joes, Target, Lucky, Amazon or Visa \$15 - \$60)
- * **Holiday Candy**

Gifts are due by Thursday, Dec. 12. Turn in to parish office or church, near Mary's statue.

If the tags are all taken, you can just purchase a gift from this list. You don't need a tag to turn in a gift. If the gift is a package just attach a label to the outside of the package (e.g. "woman's pajamas size medium"; "art supplies") If you are donating a gift card, please attach the gift receipt to the gift card so the gift card balance is apparent.

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Monday, Dec 9

8:00 a.m. † **Josie Fernandes**
(By: Joe Fernandes)
6:30 p.m. **St. Stephen Parishioners**
(By: Fr. Schunk)

Tuesday, Dec 10

8:00 a.m. † **Eleanor Louis**
(By: Ms Jessica Montgomery)

Wednesday, Dec 11

8:00 a.m. † **Daniel Illenberger**
(By: Marilu Illenberger)

Thursday, Dec 12

8:00 a.m. † **Consolacion Salera**
(By: Becky Parini)

Friday, Dec 13

8:00 a.m. † **Mila Espina**
(By: Dorothy Over)

Saturday, Dec 14

8:00 a.m. **Aikan, Kyle & Melody**
Sp. Int. (By: Papa & Mama)

4:30 p.m. †

Denis O'Connor
(By: Rose O'Connor)

Sunday, Dec 15

8:00 a.m. **St. Stephen Parishioners**
(By: Fr. Schunk)
10:30 a.m. † **Diane Tognetti**
(By: Karen Gardner)
6:30 p.m. **Christine Agoo** *Sp. Int.*
(By: Agoo Family)

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 8, 2024

God has commanded that every lofty mountain be made low. — *Baruch 5:7*



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the splendor of glory from God (Baruch 5:1-9).

Psalm — The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy (Psalm 126).

Second Reading — I am confident that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus (Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11).

Gospel — The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth (Luke 3:1-6).

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Tuesday	Our Lady of Loreto
Wednesday	St. Damasus I Pope
Thursday	Our lady of Guadalupe
Friday	St. Lucy
Saturday	St. John of the Cross
Sunday:	Third Sunday of Advent

Stewardship: A Way of Life

Sunday Collections Nov. 30 –Dec. 1, 2024

First Collection: \$ 5,452.21
2nd Collection (Maintenance Fund): \$ 610.00
Online Offerings: \$ 1,364.00
Thanksgiving Collection (Nov.28): \$ 1,009.00

TEXT to GIVE

Text "SAINTSTEPHENSF" to 73256
using your mobile device.

ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

We thank all those families who have already made their pledge/donations to the Appeal. As of Dec. 1st we have reached about 60% of our goal this year. There is still time to make a contribution and we appreciate your generosity and support. -Fr Schunk

Balance due: \$34,032

NEWMAN CATHOLIC CLUB EVENTS

Student-only Masses on Monday and Thursday at 12:30 p.m.

Holy Hour with Adoration-Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m.

Newman Night Socials—Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday Supper after Sunday 6:30 p.m. Mass in Rectory.



See's CANDIES

8th Grade Fundraiser

The St. Stephen School 8th Grade Class is having a fundraiser. You can order See's Candies online to be delivered directly to you. All proceeds benefit the Class of 2025. www.bit.ly/SeesCandy24

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.

Al Vicente Jr, Larry & Carmelita Gallager,
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,
Rodney Clark, Michelle Vicente, Eden Finn,
Michelle Weeks, Franz Tittiger, Carlota Plondaya,
Robert Liam, Edileide Jose Barbosa,
Kenneth Fambrini, Larry Barbieri, Carol Dominguez,
Marc Gutierrez, Catherine Scossieria, Gwendolyn Walsh,
Joel Rivera, Jovita & Richard Thompson.

Please call the office to add or remove names.

You Are Invited

We are delighted to share with you a wonderful opportunity at our parish to hear from Monsignor Peter Vaccari, president of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) and Pontifical Mission, who will share the noble mission of this important institution as an agency of healing and hope in today's often broken world, especially where Eastern Catholics live. He will discuss how the current wars are impacting the ancient Eastern Christian churches.

Please join us for what will certainly be a timely and compelling presentation at St. Stephen Parish:

Friday, December 13,

9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

in the church.

About CNEWA: a papal agency for humanitarian and pastoral support. Catholic Near East Welfare Association was founded by Pope Pius XI in 1926 as an instrument of love and a sign of hope for those in need scattered throughout the historic but unstable lands of the ancient Eastern churches — the Middle East, Northeast Africa, India and Eastern Europe.

You can read more about the important work of CNEWA at www.cnewa.org.

Holy Day of Obligation

The Immaculate Conception of the
Blessed Virgin Mary

Monday, December 9, 2024

Masses are Monday at

8:00 AM, 11:00 AM (school Mass), and 6:30 PM.



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

As we prepare for the solemnity of Christmas, we look forward to the joy of the birth of Christ. We hope to express our joy by filling the church with a bountiful display of Poinsettias/Christmas flowers. If you would like to have one or more Poinsettia/Christmas flower placed in the church in memory of loved ones, or to honor someone special, please fill out this form and return to the O'Reilly Parish Office by:

Monday, December 23

I would like to have a Poinsettia /Christmas flower placed in the church in loving memory of:

.....
.....

In honor of

My name is

Phone no.

Enclosed is my donation of \$25.00 to cover the cost of each Poinsettia/Christmas Flower



The Gift of Generosity

This holiday season, we thank everyone who has supported **St. Stephen Church** this past year with their time, talent and financial contributions and look forward to support from all of our members in the year ahead. If you need a convenient way to make regular offerings or if you plan to make an additional gift before the end of the year, we encourage you to look into our electronic giving options. As the pace of life speeds up, especially around the holidays, you may find electronic giving a most welcome way to make contributions. Visit saintstephensf.org or contact the church office for more information.

St. Stephen's Men's Club proudly presents

Annual Holiday Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, December 15, following the 10:30 Mass in Donworth Hall

Guests are treated to: Photo Booth, Arts & Crafts,
Gin Fizz & Mimosa Bar

Delicious breakfast provided by Toast Eatery

Bring your Appetites! Bring your friends and family! Bring an unwrapped toy to support the SFFD's Toys-for-Tots program. This event sells out quickly. You can pay via Zelle, Venmo or turn in this form with payment to the school office by Thursday, Dec. 12. Make checks payable to: St. Stephen's Men's Club.



Family Name: _____

Number of Adults: _____ X \$30 each = \$ _____

Number of Children: _____ X \$5 each = \$ _____ Total: \$ _____

Volunteers Needed for Children's Faith Formation

We need more volunteers to help with Faith Formation classes on Monday afternoons (4:15pm-5:30pm) and Children's Liturgy on Sundays at the 10:30 Mass. Please reach out to Mary Molly in the parish office if you want to learn more about what the volunteer tasks would involve.

The Faith Formation programs help form the next generation of happily practicing Catholics. Won't you help with this important and fun mission?

SIMBANG GABI

Novena of Masses leading up to Christmas at St. Stephen Church

December 16-24, 2024, 6:00 a.m. Mass

Celebrant Schedule

Mon.	Dec. 16	Most Rev. Salvatore Cordileone
Tue	Dec. 17	Rev. Raphael Laizer
Wed.	Dec. 18	Rev. Roland De la Rosa
Thu.	Dec. 19	Rev. Francis Garbo
Fri.	Dec. 20	Rev. Charles Puthota
Sat.	Dec. 21	Rev. Joyson Thomas, O.F.M.
Sun.	Dec. 22	Rev. David Schunk
Mon.	Dec. 23	Rev. Ben Rosado
Tue.	Dec. 24	Rev. Michael Lilledahl

Winter Shelter Dinner

Our parish has signed up to provide and serve dinner for the SF Interfaith Winter Shelter, for two nights this season, 12/19/24 and 2/7/25.

Sign-up sheets are in the vestibule.

With your generosity we hope to feed 80 guests at St. Mary's Cathedral on Thursday, Dec. 19th, 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM.

We need people to sign up to provide food (delivered to the parish), and others to help serve at the Cathedral.

Contact Mary Molly in the parish office for any questions.

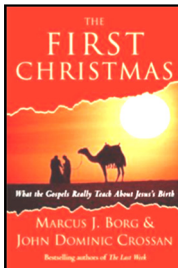


Our 20,000 sq. ft. Parish Event Center Donworth Hall is Available to Rent

Shay at 415.681.2444 x7

Or online at:

donworthevents@saintstephensf.org



St. Stephen's Book Club
Nov/Dec Book:

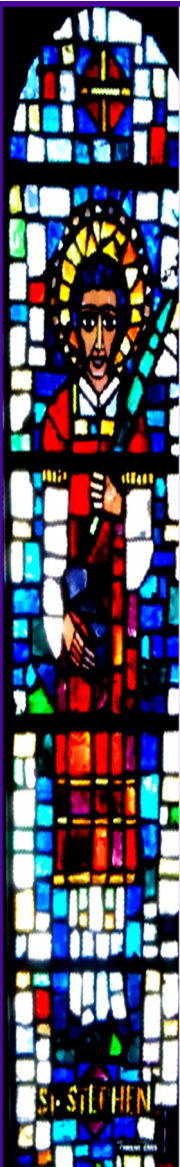
The First Christmas: What the Gospels Really Teach About Jesus's Birth

by Marcus J. Borg

* NEW MEETING DATE:

Friday, Dec. 6, 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

We will celebrate by making Christmas ornaments and drinking eggnog. Bring nibbles to share if you are able. New members are welcome to join!



PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. David Schunk, S.T.L.
Pastor, ext. 1

Fr.Schunk@SaintStephenSF.org

Rev. Michael Liliedahl
Chaplain, SFSU Newman Center
Parochial Vicar (PT)

Fr.Michael@SaintStephenSF.org

Rev. Mr. Manuel "Olet" Abad
Permanent Deacon

deacon@SaintStephenSF.org

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ststephenathleticssf@gmail.com

Ed Prete
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Today's Music

Second Sunday of Advent

Gathering: Ready The Way #63

Offertory: A Voice Cries Out #46

Communion: Bread Of Life #328,
Beyond the Moon and Stars #48

Sending: O Come, Divine Messiah #44



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: 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: John Gartland
- Newman Campus Ministry: Fr Michael Liliedahl
- Parish Council: Vicky Francisco
- Religious Education (Faith Formation, RCIA, Book Club, Hospitality): Mary Molly Mullaney
- Ushers: Pastor
- Women's Guild: Jamie Allen

Parish Office Phone 415.681.2444

*Our warmest welcome
to all who celebrate
with us!*



You can register with our parish through our online database on Realm (click on blue "Sign Up" button): www.bit.ly/StStephenReg

If you prefer a paper form or need to update your information you may complete this form & place it in the collection basket, or mail to the Parish Office, or call us at 415-681-2444 or visit 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.