

# St. Stephen Parish

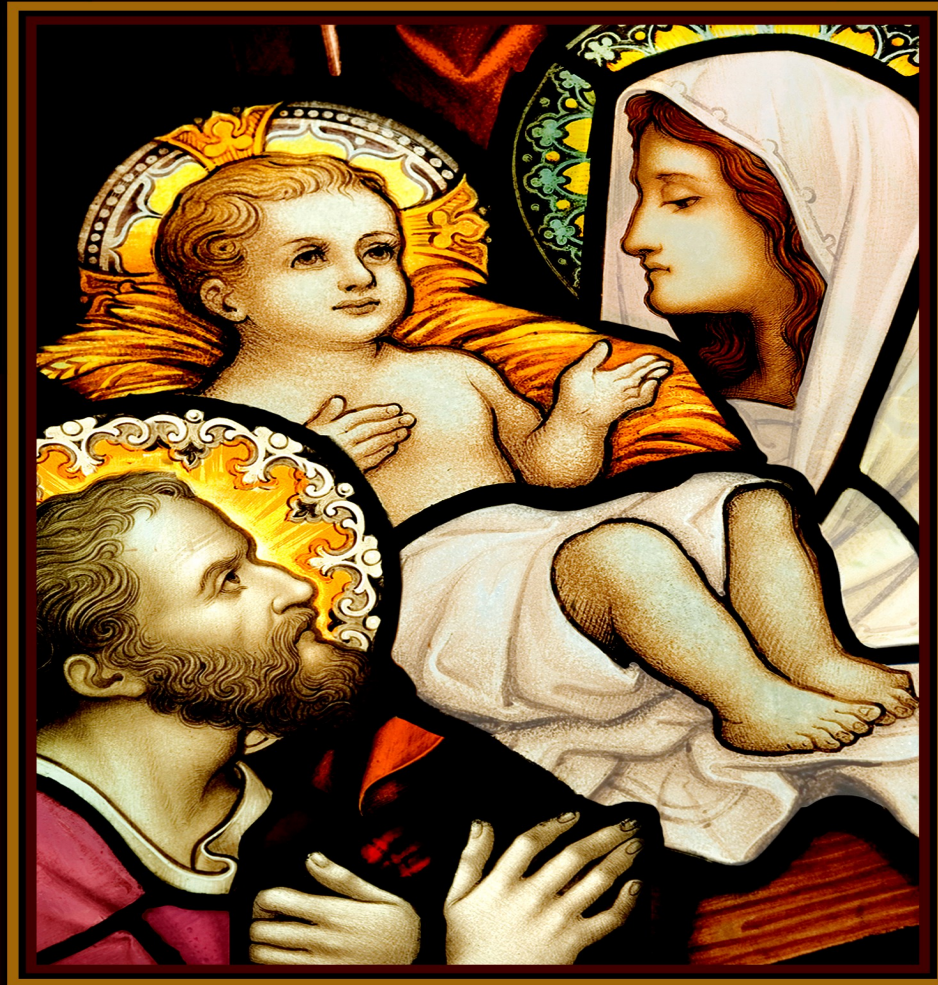
*SaintStephenSF.org* | 451 Eucalyptus Dr., San Francisco CA 94132 | Church 415 681-2444

*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.

December 31, 2023



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## The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

The child grew and became strong,  
filled with wisdom;  
and the favor of God was upon him.

Luke 2:40

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

## The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

*First Reading Sirachh 3:2-6, 12-14, Psalm 128, 2nd Reading Colossians 3:12-21, Gospel Luke 2:22-40*

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family. This celebration is assigned to the Sunday within the octave of Christmas. The Gospel for today is taken from the Gospel according to Luke and is part of Luke's Infancy Narrative.

Today's Gospel describes the presentation of the child Jesus in the Temple and shows Joseph and Mary as devout Jews, following the prescriptions of the Law of Moses. The Gospel alludes to several aspects of the Law of Moses: circumcision, the dedication of the firstborn son to the Lord, and the purification of a woman after childbirth.



According to the Law of Moses as presented in the Book of Leviticus, a woman was considered ritually unclean during her menstrual period and for a prescribed period of time following the birth of a child. After the birth of a son, a woman was considered ritually unclean for 40 days. After the birth of a daughter, a woman was considered unclean for 80 days. In order to be restored to ritual purity, a Jewish woman performed the appropriate rites of purification and made the prescribed ritual offering.

Today's Gospel notes that Jesus was circumcised on the eighth day after his birth, in accordance with the Mosaic Law. At that time, he was called Jesus, the name he was given by the angel Gabriel. On the 40th day after Jesus' birth, Mary performed the appropriate purification rites and made her offering at the Temple. Although the Law of Moses required an offering of a lamb, those who could not afford a lamb could substitute two turtledoves or two pigeons. In this scene, Luke identifies Joseph and Mary as being poor, and indeed throughout Luke's Gospel, Jesus will show special concern for the poor.

Another Jewish rite referenced in this Gospel is the dedication of the firstborn son to the Lord. In remembrance of the feast of Passover, when the firstborn children of the Israelites in Egypt were saved from death, the Law of Moses prescribed that all firstborn males of Israel should be consecrated to the Lord. In this tradition, Mary and Joseph present the infant Jesus in the Temple in Jerusalem.

In Jerusalem, Luke reports that Mary and Joseph encounter two devout Jews, Simeon and Anna, who recognize the infant Jesus as the fulfillment of Israel's hope for redemption. In Simeon's words we find a prediction of Mary's witnessing of Jesus' death on the cross. The Canticle of Simeon, also called by its Latin name, *Nunc Dimitis*, is prayed at night prayer, or compline, during the Liturgy of the Hours.



### Our Saint of the Week January 2, 2024 - *St. Basil the Great*

Basil was educated in Caesarea, Constantinople, and Athens in the fourth century. He enjoyed stimulating university life. There he met Gregory Nazianzen, a quiet, scholarly man. The two became close friends.

Basil traveled through the East and studied monastic life. As a result, he formed his own monastic group. Gregory joined him. From their discussions, Basil composed a rule of life for monks. He allowed monks and nuns to operate hospitals and guesthouses and work outside the community. His principles still influence Eastern monasticism.

The two friends lived the monastic life for only about five years. Then Gregory had to return home to care for his father, who was a bishop. When Gregory got home, he was ordained a priest, although he did not think himself worthy. He watched over his father's diocese.

In 374, Basil was made bishop of Caesarea. The Church called on him to refute the Arian heresy, which claimed that Jesus was not God. Emperor Valens promoted the heresy. Basil believed the Church must remain independent of the emperor and boldly defended the Church. He preached morning and evening to large crowds. When a famine struck, he gave his money to people who were poor. He organized a soup kitchen and served the people himself. Basil even built a town, which included a church, a hospital, and a guesthouse.

Basil continued to write for the Church and to clarify the doctrines of the Trinity and the Incarnation. Then one town was falling away from the faith, Basil ordained Gregory bishop and sent him there.

Gregory went unhappily because he disliked conflict. The two friends were later reconciled.

### 2023 AAA UPDATE INFO

#### The 2023 Annual Appeal closes today!

It is our hope that each household/parishioner will assist us by sharing their treasure as we move forward to reach our required tax of \$86,973.

To date, we still have a balance of \$18,242. ALL cash/ check donations should be with the Archdiocese of SF by December 31st to be counted towards our AAA 2023 goal.

In making your donations, please take note of the following:

- 1) **Parishioners planning to make a contribution at the end of the year, please be sure your check (Payee: AAA 2023) is dated and mailed on or before December 31, 2023** for your donation to count for this year's goal;
- 2) You may also directly donate ONLINE TODAY, December 31st at the latest, at [www.sfarchdiocese.org](http://www.sfarchdiocese.org), click on Giving tab, then AAA. *Don't forget to credit ST STEPHEN CHURCH as your beneficiary* to have your donations credited towards 2023 goal.

Know that no amount is too small and all gifts are received with great thanksgiving.

# Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



## Monday, Jan 1

8:00 a.m.

† **Guido Solomome Sr.**  
(By: St. Stephen Parish Community)

## Tuesday, Jan 2

8:00 a.m.

**Christopher Bautista Sp. Int**  
(By: Charlotte Bautista)

## Wednesday Jan 3

8:00 a.m.

† **Oscar Mendoza**  
(By: Alice Grimes)

## Thursday, Jan 4

8:00 a.m.

† **Claudio Harvatin**  
(By: FML, Parish Staff & Volunteers)

## Friday, Jan 5

8:00 a.m.

**Lymm Gonzalez Sp. Int**  
(By: Ding & Carol)

## Saturday Jan 6

8:00 a.m.

**Anamarie Dimapilis Sp. Int**  
(By: Kil Dy)

4:30 p.m.

† **Marie S. Remedios**  
(By: Maria Xavier.)

## Sunday, Jan 1

8:00 a.m.

**St. Stephen Parishioners**  
(By: Fr. Michael)

10:30 a.m.

† **Bradley Louis**  
(By: Jessica Montgomery)

6:30 p.m.

† **Gerald McManigal**  
(By: Walter & Tina Jordan)



### The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph December 31, 2023

My eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples. — Luke 2:30-31

### Today's Readings

**First Reading** — Those who honor their parents will be greatly blessed and will atone for sins  
(Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14) or Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3.

**Psalms** — Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways (Psalm 128) or Psalm 105.

**Second Reading** — Be thankful; do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus (Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]) or Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19.

**Gospel** — The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom (Luke 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]).

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

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: **The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**  
Monday: **Mary, the Holy Mother of God; The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord; World Day of Prayer for Peace; New Year's Day**  
Tuesday: **Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen**  
Wednesday: **The Most Holy Name of Jesus**  
Thursday: **St. Elizabeth Ann Seton**  
Friday: **St. John Neumann; First Friday**  
Saturday: **St. André Bessette; First Saturday**



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.

God's Blessings and Peace to All  
as you celebrate the New Year!



Fr. Michael, Fr. Ben, Dereck & Parish Staff



Join the FUN!

Monday, January 8, 2023

Doors Open 12:30pm

50+ Seniors are ALL INVITED!  
Enjoy camaraderie, snacks, Bingo games, Bridge, etc

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

## 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.

**Perry Young, 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 Scossieria, Gwendolyn Walsh, Joel Rivera, Jovita & Richard Thompson.**

Please call the office to add or remove names

## NEW YEAR'S REFLECTIONS

### Resolutions for the New Year

#### **Resolve to draw nearer to God and Christ . .**

By having a daily reading program of God's living and abiding Word

By being diligent in prayer to recharge our spiritual batteries in order to do good to others.

#### **The Best New Year Gift:**

- To your friend - loyalty;
- To your enemy - forgiveness;
- To your boss - service;
- To a child - a good example;
- To your parents - gratitude and devotion;
- To your mate - love and faithfulness;
- To all men and women - love;
- To God - your life.



#### **Make one resolution for the New Year and for all the years to come.**

We could start every morning with a short prayer:

"Good morning, Lord. Thank You for extending my life for one more day. Here I am to do Your will, O God."

And, every evening, as the last thing we do before we go to sleep, we could say a short prayer:

"Lord, I am really sorry for all my sins of the day. Please pardon me.

Forgive me, Lord, for saying 'No,' to Your grace. Help me to do better tomorrow, and to say 'Yes,' to Your love.

Thank You for everything. Thank You for helping me to do Your will today. Good night, Lord."

As we close our eyes we could say:

"Father, into Your hands I commend my spirit."

## 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.

Book we are reading for **November & December:**

*Jesus: a Pilgrimage* by James Martin, S.J.

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

## FINDING PEACE

If you want peace, work for justice. —Pope Paul VI

## NOTICE to the PUBLIC

### U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

In re: **The Roman Catholic Archbishop of San Francisco, Case No. 23-30564**

**Notice of Deadline for Filing Claims:  
February 20, 2024**

### **YOU MAY HAVE A SEXUAL ABUSE CLAIM OR OTHER CLAIM AGAINST THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN FRANCISCO**

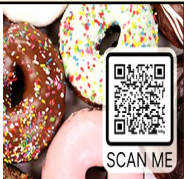
On August 21, 2023, The Roman Catholic Archbishop of San Francisco, a California corporation sole, aka Archdiocese of San Francisco (the "Debtor"), filed for protection under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code")

**If you were sexually abused by any person connected with the Debtor, you must file a claim so as to be received by February 20, 2024, or otherwise you will be forever barred, estopped, and enjoined from asserting such claim against the Debtor.**

**Claims based on acts or omissions of the Debtor that occurred before August 21, 2023, must be filed on or before February 20, 2024, even if such claims are not now fixed, liquidated, or certain or did not mature or become fixed, liquidated, or certain before August 21, 2023.**

For more information on how to obtain and file a proof of claim form and associated documents, please visit <https://omniagentsolutions.com/RCASF>, or contact Omni Agent Solutions, Inc., the Debtor's claims agent via email at [RCASFInquiries@omniagnt.com](mailto:RCASFInquiries@omniagnt.com) or by phone at 888-480-6507 (U.S. and Canada toll free) or 747-293-0084 (International), between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (prevailing Pacific Time), Monday through Friday.

**\*\*If you have questions about the bankruptcy case filed by the Archdiocese of San Francisco, please also visit the website at <https://sfarch.org> and follow the links for Chapter 11 Filing\*\***



**Volunteers needed  
to help serve  
Coffee & Donuts  
after 10:30 Mass**

<https://bit.ly/donutMass>

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

St Stephen Church provides Online Giving--  
a convenient and safe way to make a one-time  
or recurring donation. When you participate,  
your gift will be securely transferred directly  
into the parish. Visit [www.saintstephensf.org](http://www.saintstephensf.org),  
click on Giving link.

## **We Rent Our Hall**

**Our 20,000 Sq. Ft. Parish Center**  
Available to Rent For info, call Shay at 415 681-2444 x7  
or [donworthevents@saintstephensf.org](mailto:donworthevents@saintstephensf.org)

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

There's no more unusual setting to celebrate today's Feast of the Holy Family than Barcelona, Spain and the towering unfinished sandcastle known officially as the Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Familia. In 1882, the plan was hatched to build a vast place of worship in reparation for the revolutionary and liberal leanings of the city. The modern artist Antoni Gaudi dedicated his life to the project, living in the building, attending Mass daily, and giving up his personal wealth. When people pressed him to pick up the pace, he responded, "My client is not in a hurry." (Gaudi's cause for beatification is moving along, and he could be the first professional artist and architect to be beatified.) The Spanish Civil War, a disaster for the Catholic Church in which thousands of priests, brothers, and nuns were murdered, halted work in 1935. In the 1950s work began anew, speeded up by computers in the 1980s. Still, the final stage of construction is not due to end until 2026. If the original methods had stayed in place, it would take several hundred more years to complete the plan. So far there are eight towers, with four to go. The highest steeple is three feet shorter than the nearest hill, since the architect didn't want his work to surpass God's artistry. The three faces of the basilica each have three doors, with the faces named Passion, Nativity, and Grace. The interior is crammed with geometric figures that almost seem to spin, crazy-quilt windows, spiral staircases, and jumbles of statues and figures. Although inspired by ancient Gothic cathedrals, the style is called Expressionist, and very little is left unexpressed by the masonry. If you can't afford a visit, Sagrada Familia maintains a web site, and virtual visits are free.

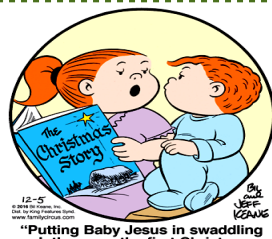
### Prayer to St. Michael



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*

### HUMILITY

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



### TEXT to GIVE

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

## 2023 ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Campaign GOAL : \$ **86,973.00**  
 Total Payments Received : \$ 68,731.00  
 Campaign Goal Balance : \$ **18,242.00**

We thank the following parishioners who have shared their treasures with the parish **this week** as of 12.19.2023: (For a complete listing, refer to AAA Poster in Church vestibule.)

Anonymous	Ms Maria Luz Illenberger
M/M James Brady	Mr. Lan Huong D Nguyen
M/M Patrick Casserly Jr	M/M Edwin Quan
Ms Nora Coussinat	Ms. Alice Ransom
M/M John J Duggan	Mr. Edward j Reidy

### A BIT OF "HUMOR"



One day, a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast on her head. She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, "Why are some of your hairs white, Mom?" Her mother replied, "Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me unhappy, one of my hair turns white." The little girl thought for a while, and said, "Momma, how come that grandma's head is full of white hair?"



### Didn't You Get My E-Mail?

As a little girl climbed onto Santa's lap, Santa asked the usual, "And what would you like for Christmas?" The child stared at him open mouthed and horrified for a minute, then gasped: "Didn't you get my E-mail?"

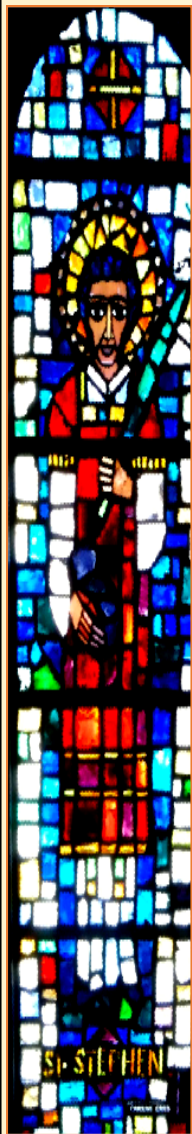
### A wish Come True

My mom is a bit of a pack rat. Recently she went digging under her stairs for some holiday decorations and came across a birthday card I had sent her 30 years earlier. She called me to say my wish for her had come true. "What wish?" I asked. "You wished me a happy 30th birthday," Mom replied, "and hoped I'd live for another 30 years—and I did!"

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**SATURDAY, February 3, 2024**  
**6:00 pm — 9:00 pm**  
**Donworth Hall**



**St Stephen Parish Community's**  
**Annual Fundraising Event**  
**info@saintstephensf.org | 415-681-2444**



## PASTORAL STAFF

**Rev. Michael Lilledahl**  
*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*  
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**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 Lilledahl      |
| • Marriage PreparationClergy |                            |
| • 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 (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!*

### **Be sure to REGISTER in the parish!**

As we approach year-end, if you're a regular donor but not a registered parishioner, take a moment to be sure your giving history will be complete for your tax letter.

Go to <https://saintstephensf.org/parish-registration-form> to REGISTER ONLINE OR use the paper Registration Forms provided at the church's vestibule or drop by the parish office to inquire and familiarize yourself with the Pastor's office and his parish staff.

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Your generosity makes a difference!

St Stephen Church is a 501C(3) non-profit corporation. Our TAX ID# 94-1156799

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We are working to make your gift-giving easier. We're on the way to using VENMO and PAYPAL for your convenience. Stay tuned as we work on this process!