

# Saint Stephen Parish

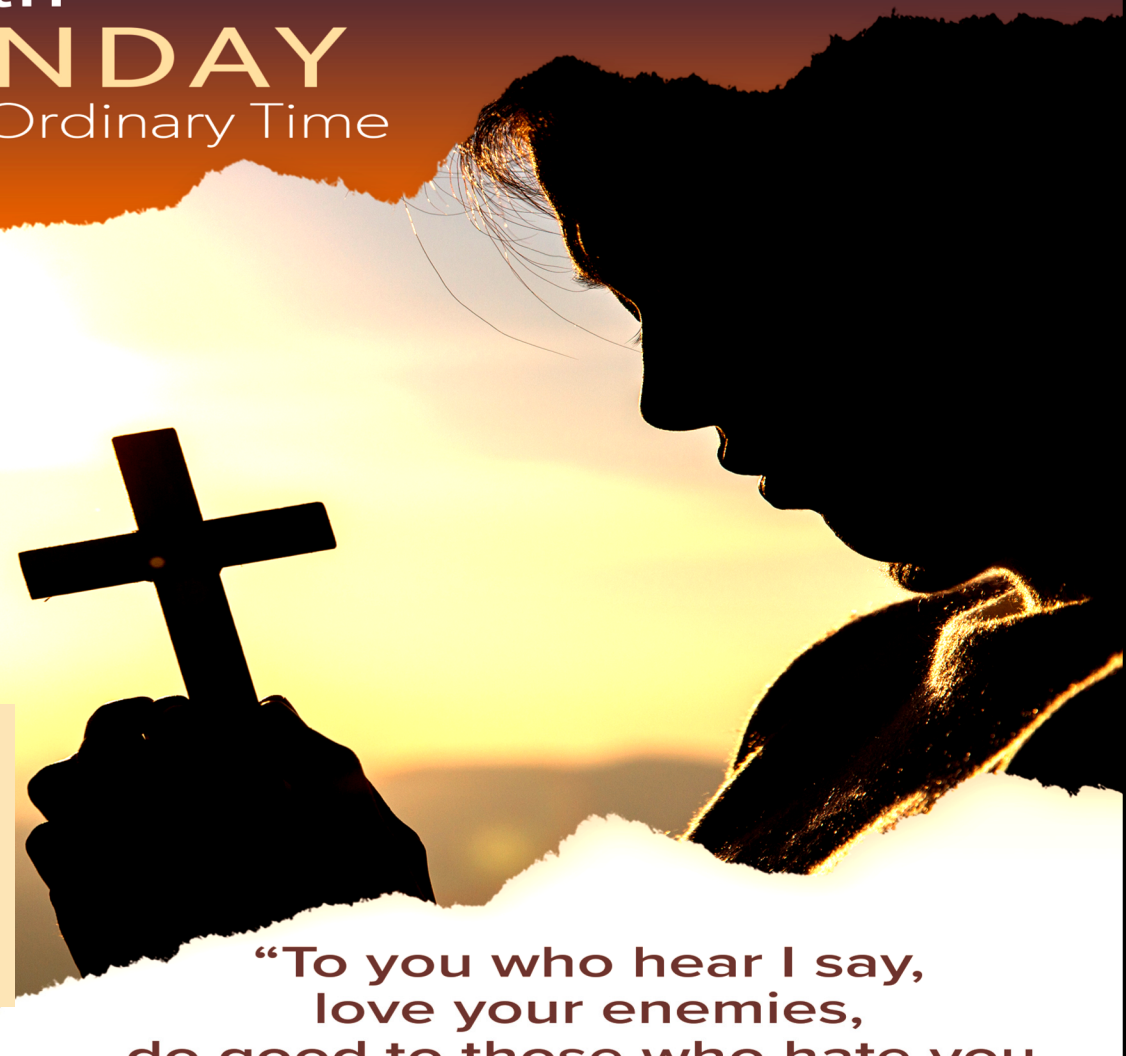
SaintStephenSF.org | 601 Eucalyptus Dr., San Francisco CA 94132 | Church 415 681-2444  
StStephenSchoolSF.org | 401 Eucalyptus Dr., San Francisco 94132 | School 415 664-8331

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.

## Seventh SUNDAY in Ordinary Time

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February  
23  
2025



“To you who hear I say,  
love your enemies,  
do good to those who hate you,  
bless those who curse you,  
pray for those who mistreat you.”

Luke 6:27

### Our Mission Statement

We are a Catholic Community that is called by God to follow Jesus Christ. We believe that we are called to worship God together, to lead God's people along the path of hope laid down by Jesus, to share his message through preaching, through the education and formation of our people, young and old, and through caring service and sensitive outreach to those in need.

*Rev. David Schunk, Pastor*



February 23, 2025

**Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,**

This coming Saturday morning (March 1<sup>st</sup>), a group of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders will receive a particular gift of the Holy Spirit in the sacrament of Confirmation. Some people see Confirmation as simply a Catholic rite of passage, a moment of transition from childhood to becoming more mature. While the sacrament is often celebrated around this age, it is so much more than a ritual of adulthood. We look at the sacraments as ways the power of God is truly at work in our lives through incarnate (physical) signs. Think about water for Baptism or bread and wine for the Eucharist as being ways in which the Lord transforms us. In the case of our young people, hands are laid on them and they are sealed with the Sacred Chrism holy oil, a symbol that God changes them and that he bestows his Spirit upon them for the rest of their lives. I should add that we say a *particular* gift of the Holy Spirit because the Spirit is already present to them (and us) so it is not as if the Holy Spirit was not there before. But in this sacrament, God bestows the Spirit upon them with the power of his grace with the gift of Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, Fear of the Lord (i.e. Awe & Reverence). Please pray for them on Saturday as they prepare themselves to receive the Lord's graces and that for the rest of their lives, they realize the power and presence of the Lord who accompanies them throughout their lives.

**Father Schunk**

**Black Catholic on the Road to Sainthood**

**Venerable Father Augustus Tolton: A famous first who took the last place (1854-1897)**

Father Augustus Tolton, born the son of slaves on April 1, 1854, became the first priest from the United States who was recognizably African American. After narrowly escaping slavery in Missouri with his mother and siblings, he reached maturity in Quincy, Illinois. There, the local pastor accepted him into the parish school despite opposition from parishioners.



Tolton knew God was calling him to be a priest, but since no American seminary would accept him, he was forced to work arduous, low-level jobs instead. Meanwhile, he pressed on toward his calling. Tolton was accepted to seminary in Rome and was ordained in 1886. Though he expected to serve as a missionary in Africa, he soon found out that he was destined for service back in the United States.

"America has been called the most enlightened nation; we will see if it deserves that honor," said Cardinal Simeoni, "If America has never seen a Black priest, it has to see one now."

Father Tolton was sent back to Quincy, where he was met with racial prejudice by laity and clergy alike. He was maligned and mistreated by many, including his own brother priests. Father Tolton accepted this cross. He was invited to minister in Chicago in 1889, where Fr. Tolton was indefatigable in his efforts to serve a growing Black Catholic community and establish St. Monica Church for Black Catholics. This work, combined with a good deal of travel for speaking engagements on the plight of his people, took a toll on the priest. After returning from a retreat by train, Father Tolton collapsed on a Chicago street corner in record-breaking heat on July 9, 1897, and he died shortly thereafter.

**St. Stephen's Book Club**

will meet Friday, March 7, at 4:30pm in the parish office. We are reading *Encyclical of Pope Francis: On The Human and Divine Love of The Heart of Jesus Christ*. Download free copy:

[www.bit.ly/Pope-Heart-of-Jesus](http://www.bit.ly/Pope-Heart-of-Jesus)



April's book: *The Spear* a novel of the Crucifixion by Louis De Wohl, a distinguished and internationally respected Catholic author. A panoramic historical novel of the last days of Jesus Christ. It tells the full story of all the participants involved in the dramatic execution, including the seldom remembered Roman soldier who thrust his spear into Christ as he hung on the Cross.

**Sick Friends & Relatives**

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.

**GeriAnne Martin, Mary MacKinny, Alex & Marie, Greg Iorio, Larry & Carmelita Gallager, Pacita Calimlim-Sagun, Araceli Caparas, Ana Caballero, George Farrales, Perry Young, Antoinette Mishirsky, Al Vicente Jr, 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 Barbriere, 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.*

# Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK

## Monday, Feb 17

8:00 a.m. † **Robert Busco Javier**  
(By: Maria Javier)

## Tuesday, Feb 18

8:00 a.m. **Cindy De Jesus** Sp. Int.  
(By: Cyrille, Joneal & Chasey)

## Wednesday, Feb 19

8:00 a.m. † **Rev. David Pettingill**  
(By: Azaian & Siblings)

## Thursday, Feb 20

8:00 a.m. **Alice Paz Grimes** Sp. Int.  
(Birthday Blessings)

## Friday, Feb 21

8:00 a.m. **Fr. Bill Brady** Sp. Int.  
(By: Ding, Carol & Family)

## Saturday, Feb 22

8:00 a.m. † **Lito Mijares**  
(By: Mga Anak ni Gloria)

4:30 p.m. † **Renee Lobo**  
(By: Deborah Lobo)

## Sunday, Feb 23

8:00 a.m. **Cesario M. Javier** Sp. Int.  
(By: Family)

10:30 a.m. **Chase Family**  
(By: Lupita Chase)

6:30 p.m. **People of the Parish**  
(By: Fr. Schunk)

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** *1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23*  
David does not kill Saul.

**Responsorial Psalm** *Psalm 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13*  
A song in praise of God's mercy

**Second Reading** *1 Corinthians 15:45-49*  
As we bear the image of Adam, so we will bear the image of the one from heaven.

**Gospel Reading** *Luke 6:27-38*  
Jesus teaches his disciples to be merciful as God is merciful.

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday	<b>Saint Polycarp</b>
Tuesday	<b>Saint Ethelbert</b>
Wednesday	<b>Saint Alexander</b>
Thursday	<b>Saint Gabriel Francis Possenti</b>
Friday	<b>Saint Angela of Foligno</b>
Saturday	<b>Saint John Cassian</b>

## Stewardship: A Way of Life

*Sunday Collections - February 15-16, 2025*

\$ 3,479.00 Sunday Collection

\$ 1,663.00 Online Offering



**Join the FUN!**  
**Monday, March 3, 2025**  
**in Donworth Hall**  
**Doors Open 12:30pm**  
**All Seniors are invited!**

## Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

*February 23, 2025*

Merciful and gracious is the LORD, slow to anger and abounding in kindness.— *Psalm 103*



AT SAN FRANCISCO STATE

### Newman Nights: Thursday from 6:30-8pm

Join us at St. Stephen's every Thursday at 6:30pm for fellowship + fun, with different activities each week!

**Student Mass: Sunday @ 6:30pm, Thursday @ 12:30** Student mass is held at St. Stephen's Catholic Church on Sundays and the rectory on Thursdays. Located at 601 Eucalyptus Drive.


### Sunday Supper: Sunday evenings at 7:30pm

Share a free meal with other college-aged students! Dinner is in the rectory of St. Stephen's, located along Eucalyptus Drive.

### Pizza & Prayer: Wednesday from 6-7pm

Join us for pizza and a time to learn more about how to pray and different forms of prayer.



 @newman\_at\_sfsu

*get connected!*

### Special Event for Young Adults on Thursday:

**Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> - 7:00-10:00 PM**

**Boot Scootin' Baywide Dance**

Line & Swing Dance Lessons @ Donworth Hall, 473 Eucalyptus Dr. (below gym)



St. Stephen Men's Club Presents the Annual

# St. Patrick's Day Celebration



**Saturday, March 8 in Donworth Hall, 5:30 PM**

**Corned Beef Dinner & Entertainment**

Please RSVP by Monday, March 3, using either payment method:

- Check: turn in payment to school office with check payable to St. Stephen Men's Club
- PayPal: to ststephenmensclub - be sure to include family name and number of adults/children attending in payment notes. (No need to return form if paying via PayPal)

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

#Adults @ \$25/each: \_\_\_\_ #Children @ \$10/each: \_\_\_\_ Total amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_



**Special Thanks go out to all the people who helped provide the Winter Shelter Dinner on February 7 at St. Mark's Church.**

St. Stephen Parishioners provided the meal (entrees, salads, desserts) and supplies (plates,

napkins, etc.) and served the meal to the homeless men and women at the SF Interfaith Winter Shelter.

A **BIG "Thank You"** to Dan Holper for helping organize the meal service. According to Dan it was a smashing success! **Dan and the parish staff want to give a GIGANTIC THANKS to all the volunteers.**

Some of the volunteers: Deborah Lobo, Karen Leach, Liz Teshara, Marta Bayol, Betty Hayes, Nancy Tam, Lena Juan, Alice Grimes, Susan, Noelle, Rose, Tina and Roy Fernandez, John and Marilyn Lee, Linda Smith, Stephanie Mazzola, Norma Shaw, Mary Rose Dolores, Thomas Bookwalter, Kathy Rogers, Lisa and Justin Simpson, Lucille Sanchez-Corea, Diane Linehan, Rick and Blanca Schaefer, Debby Diaz, Nora Coussinat, Anne Burgoyne, Cecilia Quintanilla, Joshua Bernadean, Jacob Perez, and Dan Holper.

*"The heart of a volunteer is not measured in size, but by the depth of the commitment to make a difference in the lives of others."* - DeAnn Hollis

## Online Giving Transition

As we have been announcing in the bulletin, we are *finally* beginning the process of transitioning to a new platform for our online giving for our parish community. We are doing this to streamline our office operations from two platforms to a single platform and to bring this and our parish database under one roof. We believe this will not only help office workflow but also save our parish money in the long term. The new provider may be a familiar Catholic company to some of you, Our Sunday Visitor (OSV). Besides being a publisher of books and news, they also support parishes with stewardship resources like online giving and envelopes.



During the period of transition, we ask that you stop your reoccurring offerings in the old platform (Realm or Vanco) and set them up in the new online platform with OSV. As we begin the transition, we will be starting with just our Sunday Offertory and Maintenance Fund. Over time, we will include other special collections. We will have the systems running parallel through the end of February at which time we will take the older systems offline.

One of our parishioners, Connie D'Aura, is available to assist parishioners make the transition to the new site if they encounter difficulties. You may reach out to her at [donations@saintstephensf.org](mailto:donations@saintstephensf.org) Users of the current/newer system (Realm) may follow the old links on the parish website to make their updates ([saintstephensf.org/give](http://saintstephensf.org/give)). For parishioners using the older Vanco site, you may need to reach out to Connie for access and she will be able to assist you. Your profiles and giving history should be updated in the new OSV database.

Thank you very much for your patience and your sacrificial giving to our parish community.

**BIBLE SHARING GROUPS ON ZOOM**  
Monthly Bible Sharing Groups @ 7:30 PM  
in English or in Chinese (Cantonese)  
Led by Terence Leung  
One hour Zoom meetings.

We will read a scripture passage, share perspectives and pray together.

For more information or to register, please contact:

Terence Leung at [terence.scp@gmail.com](mailto:terence.scp@gmail.com)

English meeting is the last Wednesday of the month.

Chinese meeting is the first Thursday of the month.

## Stations of the Cross in Times of Grief

**Wednesday, February 26, 10:30-11:30 a.m.**

Holy Name Parish Office Chapel  
1555 39th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94122

Sr. Toni Lynn Gallagher will guide us in finding hope through each station, showing how this sacred journey parallels our own experiences of loss and teaches us how to move forward in faith. All are welcome to this morning of reflection and healing.

For questions contact Holy Name Parish Office  
Ph: 415.664.8590

Email: [parish@holynamesf.org](mailto:parish@holynamesf.org)



## From the Archive

This page is from the St. Stephen's Parish History booklet 1950—1953



ALWAYS RUNNING



OUR FRESHMEN

# ST. STEPHEN'S SCHOOL

By a happy and perhaps almost providential coincidence the parishioners were thrilled when official word was received that the children of the Parish School, to whom one day the destinies of the Parish would be entrusted, would be educated under the capable administration and splendid faculty of the Sisters of Mercy, who are under the patronage of — Our Lady of Mercy.

Thus, as always, the Cross has walked step by step with material progress, and by the Divine Hand of Providence, in

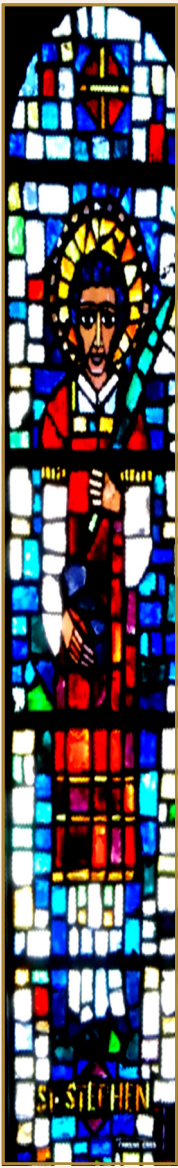
the fabulous Lake Merced area, you and your children are assured of the highest type of spiritual and mental development.

Our faculty consists of:

Sister Mary Georgina, Principal  
Sister Mary Alice  
Sister Mary Anastasia  
Sister Mary Gloria



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL



## PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. David Schunk, S.T.L.  
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Parochial Vicar (PT)

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## 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 Lilledahl
- Parish Council                      Vicky Francisco
- Religious Education                      Mary Molly Mullaney  
(Faith Formation, RCIA, Book Club, Hospitality)
- Ushers                                  Pastor
- Women's Guild                      Jamie Allen

Parish Office Phone 415.681.2444

## Saint Stephen 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Prayer

Heavenly Father, we give thanks  
for 75 years of faith, love, and service  
at Saint Stephen Parish.

Bless all those who came before us  
who built this community  
through their faith,  
devotion, and sacrifice.

May Saint Stephen continue to be a place  
where your people gather  
to celebrate the Eucharist,  
encounter your love,  
and be given the grace  
to be true missionary disciples,  
bringing your love to the world.

We ask all this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



*Donate Online  
With our new  
OSV Service*

### Music for Sunday February 23, 2025

Sing along with us, songs found in missalette books:

Gathering: **Love Has Come # 428**

Offertory: **God of Mercy #501**

Communion: **Christians Let Us Love One Another  
#425, Bread For the World #329**

Sending: **Glory and Praise To Our God #546**