

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 **LENT**

March 16, 2025



Peter said to Jesus,
“Master, it is good that we are here; let us make three tents,
one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”

Luke 9:33



March 16, 2025

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

A big thank you to the Saint Stephen's Men's Club who organized last Saturday's Saint Patrick's Day dinner. In particular, thank you to Sean Conlon, George Gleeson, and Men's Club President John Gartland for organizing the event, along with many volunteers from the Men's Club. We are grateful for the entertainment that was provided by the Irish Pipers of San Francisco and Murphy Irish Dancers of San Francisco. Thank you as well to Guerra's Quality Meats for the corn beef and Sweet Passion Bakery for the wonderful soda bread. It was a delicious and wonderful tradition for our parish.

Saint Patrick's official feast day is March 17. Although our city is named after Saint Francis of Assisi and he is our city's patron, Saint Patrick is the co-patron of the Archdiocese of San Francisco. Undoubtedly, he was included as a patron because of the strong connections of the Irish immigrants and the Catholic Church over the decades here in the City. Along with Irish immigrants, our local Church continues to be enriched by many immigrants from across the globe who build up the Church with their own culture, faith, and devotions.

This coming week, I will be heading down to Prince of Peace Abbey in Oceanside, CA for my annual week-long retreat. Prince of Peace is a small Benedictine community with their principal ministry being hosting retreats. Please be assured of my prayers for you during this week and I will see you all next weekend.

Thank you to seminarians Derek Delgado and Jimmy Velasco for presenting at this past week's Lenten soup supper and thank you to everyone who participated in the event, especially members of our Liturgy Committee who help to organize the soup suppers. We will have one other soup supper on Tuesday, April 8, with Father Michael as our speaker.

You are welcome to join us on Friday evenings at 6:00 PM in the church to pray the Stations of the Cross. The traditional devotion of praying and walking the Stations of the Cross is another opportunity to enter into the Lenten season and the death and resurrection of our Lord.

Father Schunk

**The Season of Lent:
What Differences Might We Notice in Church**

When the season of Lent arrives, there are some changes that people often notice in Church. Probably the most obvious of these is that people receive ashes on Ash Wednesday.

In addition, however, the color of the vestments changes to violet. On the Fourth Sunday of Lent, which is also called *Laetare* Sunday, as the Lenten season is already half over, the joy of the Easter is a bit anticipated, and on that day rose colored vestments may be used.

Also, the hymn *Glory to God in the highest* is omitted at Mass, and the *Alleluia* before the gospel is replaced. The *Alleluia* will not be heard again until the Easter Vigil.

During Lent, is it not permitted to decorate the altar with flowers. Exceptions to this, however, are *Laetare* Sunday (the Fourth Sunday of Lent), solemnities, and feasts. In addition, the organ and other musical instruments are allowed only in order to support the singing. Again, exceptions to this would be *Laetare* Sunday, solemnities, and feasts.

Source: Rev. Kurt Belsole, OSB, Saint Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe, PA www.liftupyourhearts.church

St. Patrick, (5th century) patron saint and national apostle of Ireland, credited with bringing Christianity to Ireland and probably responsible in part for the Christianization of the Picts and Anglo-Saxons. He is known only from two short works, the *Confessio*, a spiritual autobiography, and his *Letter to Coroticus*, a denunciation of British mistreatment of Irish Christians.

Patrick was born in Britain of a Romanized family. At age 16 he was torn by Irish raiders from the villa of his father, a deacon and local official, and carried into slavery in Ireland. He spent six bleak years there as a herdsman, during which he turned with fervor to his faith. Upon dreaming that the ship in which he was to escape was ready, he fled his master and found passage to Britain. There he came near to starvation and suffered a second brief captivity before he was reunited with his family. The best known passage in the *Confessio* tells of a dream, after his return to Britain, in which he received a letter headed "The Voice of the Irish." As he read it, he seemed to hear a certain company of Irish beseeching him to walk once more among them. Despite having fears and doubts of his fitness he returned to Ireland. Utterly confident in the Lord, he journeyed far and wide, baptizing and confirming with untiring zeal. In diplomatic fashion he brought gifts to those in authority, but lived in constant danger of martyrdom.

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Monday, Mar 17

8:00 a.m. † **Maria Ignacio Castillo**
(By: Adele Caunan)

Tuesday, Mar 18

8:00 a.m. † **Claudio Hrvatin**
(By: Hrvatin Family)

Wednesday, Mar 19

8:00 a.m. **Pat Tom** *Sp. Int.*
(By: A Friend)

Thursday, Mar 20

8:00 a.m. † **Adele Caunan**
(By: Parish Staff & Volunteers)

Friday, Mar 21

8:00 a.m. † **Evan Que Cheng**
(By: Shirley Dee)

Saturday, Mar 22

8:00 a.m. † **Romulo Austria**
(By: Rodel & Edna Rodis)

4:30 p.m. † **Genevieve Dy** *Sp. Int.*
(By: Dy Family)

Sunday, Mar 23

8:00 a.m. † **Ann Costello**
(By: Tom & Beibhinn Conroy)

10:30 a.m. † **Albert Gragnani**
(By: Diane Gragnani)

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

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading *Genesis 15:5-12,17-18*

God makes a covenant with Abraham, promising him many descendants.

Responsorial Psalm *Psalms 27:1,7-9,13-14*

A prayer to God who is our salvation

Second Reading *Philippians 3:17-4:1* Paul encourages the Philippians to remain firm in their faith that Christ will subject all things to himself.

Gospel Reading *Luke 9:28b-36*

Jesus is transfigured in the presence of Peter, John, and James.

Online Giving

Our new online giving system with OSV is up and running.

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



www.osvhub.com/saintstephensf/giving/funds

Stewardship: A Way of Life

Sunday Collections - March 8-9, 2025

\$5,715.27 Sunday Collection
\$ 766.00 Online Offering
\$ 322.00 Second Collection—Maintenance

"God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy" — Pope Francis

Lenten Pray 40 Challenge on The HALLOW APP

We are inviting you to join the Lenten "Pray 40" challenge on the Hallow Prayer App. It will feature content from a range of Catholic spiritual leaders, and it is a great tool to bolster your prayer life this Lent.

Thanks to an Archdiocesan partnership with Hallow, all parishioners can subscribe to Hallow Premium for 12 months for only \$1. (one dollar!) To access this deal, visit the special webpage for our parish at:

www.hallow.com/communities/9947

The Hallow app is the #1 Catholic app available. It offers scripture readings, reflections, music, meditations, prayers, and prayer groups. Make sure to join the Saint Stephen Parish group.

Hallow

Catholic Prayer & Meditation App



Come join us!

Stations of the Cross

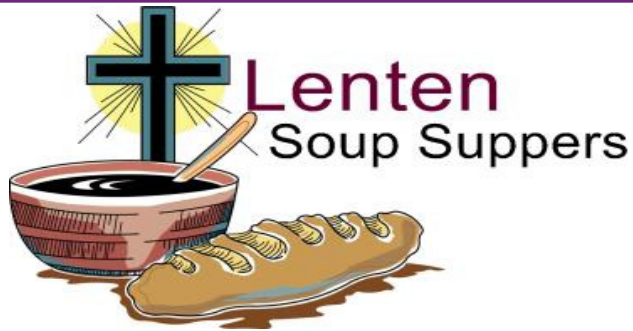
Fridays during Lent
6:00 p.m. in Church

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.

**Tresa Matthews, GeriAnne Martin,
Mary MacKinny, Alex & Marie, Greg Iorio,
Larry & Carmelita Gallager, Ana Caballero,
Pacita Calimlim-Sagun, Araceli Caparas,
George Farrales, Perry Young, Antoinette
Mishirsky, Al Vicente Jr, Tony Devincenzi,
Julie Burton, Nestor & Nelson Plondaya,
Marie Bachand, Rodney Clark, Michelle Vicente,
Eden Finn, Michelle Weeks, Franz Tittiger,
Carlota Plondaya, Robert Liam, Kenneth
Fambrini, Larry Barbriere, Marc Gutierrez,
Catherine Scossieria, 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.



Lenten Soup Suppers

Tuesday, April 8

6:00 PM—7:00 PM—Soup Potluck

7:00 PM—8:00 PM—Special Presentation
in Donworth Hall

Signup Sheets will be in the vestibule later this month if you want to bring some food to share.

April 8: Fr. Michael Lilledahl will speak about “Jubilee.” (more info to come)

Special THANKS to all who made our first supper (3/12) such a success, to those who brought food to share, to those who helped clean up, all those who attended, and especially to our presenters, Seminarians Dereck Delgado and Jimmy Velasco, for sharing their experiences on their pilgrimage across the country last summer as part of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage. May they continue to be blessed on their journey towards the priesthood.



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.



get connected!

@newman_at_sfsu

Newman Nights—Thursdays, 6:30-8:00pm
• **March 20th—Round One Fun Night (the new bowling & arcade at Stonestown Mall)**



St. Stephen Women's Guild

MAMMA MIA FASHION SHOW

Saturday, April 5th
at the Olympic Club

Purchase your tickets online
www.sswgfashionshow.com

Before they're gone!

Our Humor for the Week



At the transfiguration Peter offered to build three tents, one for Jesus, one for Moses and one for Elijah. Jesus said, "And what about you, Peter?" And Peter replies, "Don't worry about me Lord, I got a better place in Jaffa."

A little boy in church for the first time watched as the ushers passed around the offering plates. When they came near his pew, the boy said loudly, "Don't pay for me, Daddy, I'm under five."

The Three Transformations in Our Lives

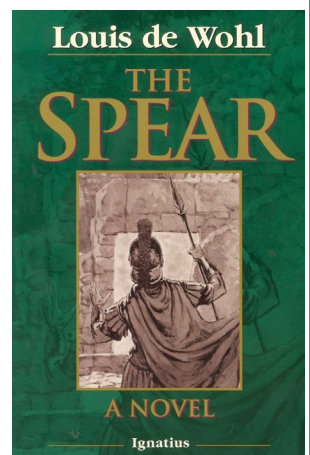
The first transformation in our lives begins at Baptism which washes away original sin, transforming us into children of God and heirs of heaven.

The second transformation takes place through our victory over the trials and tribulations of life. Every challenge, every difficulty, every moment of suffering, is an opportunity for transformation and spiritual growth.

The third transformation takes place at death. Eternal life in Heaven, perhaps after a period of further transformation in Purgatory, is granted to those who have been found worthy. The last transformation or transfiguration will be completed at the Second Coming when our glorified body is reunited with our soul.

St. Stephen's Book Club

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.



ALTAR BOYS

As soon as our Parish was established, well trained and experienced Altar Boys who had learned their Latin and served their apprenticeship at various neighboring Parishes, presented themselves, in a generous pioneer spirit, to the Pastor, and volunteered their services.

As a small token of appreciation they were rewarded at the First Annual Altar Boy Picnic, held on the grounds of Mrs. William Rowe's country home in Sonoma County.

Under the direction of Father J. Thomas Madden, a training course has been established for the boys of our school, and appropriate facilities have been incorporated in our new church, thus assuring a vigorous Altar Boy Society.

Those who were privileged to be among the first who served on our Altar are: John Scully, Allan Warnick, Jim Haran, Jack Burke, Philip Nemeth, Paul Nemeth, Bill Schroder, Tom Tyrrell, George Railton, John Henning, Michael Beacom, Robert Kull, Robert Scully, Daniel Haran, Terry Callan, Tim O'Donnell, Tim Rhein, Ed Laine, Bob Bilafer, Robert Henning, Bill Dowdall, Tom Railton, Joseph Tinney, Paul Altorfer, Charles Nelson, Jack Irvine, James Henning, Walter Mallison, Tom Brady, Robert Rauh, Richard Johnson, Robert Schwarz, Alfred Cleary, Robert Winch, Christopher Haran, Gary Tensfeldt.



As you can see, we now have Altar Girls in addition to Altar Boys. This is a photo of Altar Servers for the First Communion Mass, April 27, 2023.

From left: Riley Carrillo, Andrew McGovern and his sister Caitlin McGovern. The McGovern's younger sister, Robyn, made her First Communion that day.

75th Anniversary Fund

We are looking to raise \$250k for our Anniversary Fund this year to help pay for critical maintenance issues. Flyers are in the vestibule with more information. You may make contributions using envelopes that are found in the vestibule or via our parish's online donation website. No gift is too small as we hope everyone in the parish will participate to strengthen Saint Stephen's for another 75 years!



WinterFaith Shelter Walk

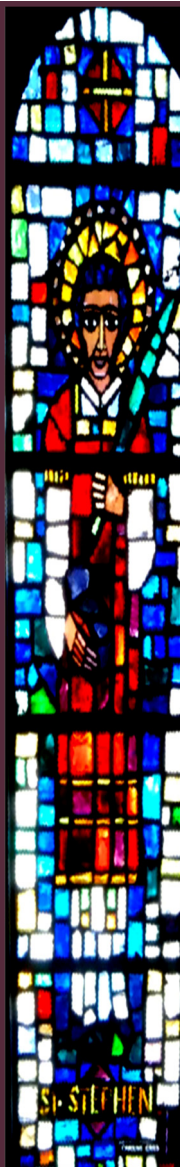
Join the St. Stephen Parish's walk-a-thon team, the Fog Walkers, in raising funds for the San Francisco Interfaith Council's Winter Shelter Program.



REGISTER OR DONATE AT:

www.bit.ly/StS-FogWalkers

The Shelter Walk is on April 6 @ Lake Merced



PASTORAL STAFF

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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 (Faith Formation, RCIA, Book Club, Hospitality) Mary Molly Mullaney
- Ushers Pastor
- Women's Guild Jamie Allen

Parish Office Phone 415.681.2444

Saint Stephen 75th 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 March 16

Sing along with us, songs found in missalette books:

Gathering: The Glory of These Forty Days #141

Offertory: 'Tis Good, Lord, To Be Here #126

Communion: See Us, Lord, About Your Altar #377,
Seed, Scattered and Sown #344

Sending: Beyond The Days #131