

# 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.

## Fourth Sunday of LENT

"I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.'"

Luke 15:18-19



March 30, 2025



March 30, 2025

### Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

This is the Fourth Sunday of Lent and is known as *Laetare* Sunday. It is one of two days of the liturgical calendar when the liturgical color is rose (not pink), the other being the Third Sunday of Advent. The word *laetare* is Latin for rejoice and comes from the Entrance Antiphon of the Mass. The Entrance Antiphon is technically what the Church sings as the “entrance hymn,” though most parishes do not sing the antiphons. The full text of the Entrance Antiphon is: “Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.” This is a reference/quotation from Isaiah 66:10-11. It is proper to rejoice today because we are halfway through the Lenten season. As the difficulties of our sacrifices and penances weigh on us, the words of Isaiah may lift us up and give us new vigor as we look to complete our Lenten journey. Being halfway through Lent, it may be a good chance for each of us to ask ourselves how we are doing with what we set out to do in Lent? Just because we fell behind does not mean we give up but may hit the reset button, and as a prayer from Ash Wednesday says, complete our campaign of Christian service.

One of the practices many of the faithful try to do during Lent is to go to Confession. As you know, we have regular Confessions offered before our weekend Masses. There is also going to be a Sunset Deanery Reconciliation service with individual Confession held at Saint Cecelia’s on Monday, April 14 at 7:00 PM. There will be priests from the neighboring parishes, so this is an opportunity for a wider selection of Confessors in one convenient location. Of course, most parishes post their Confession times online so you can always check out other parishes and their regular Confession times for a time that works for you.

This is the final reminder that we are turning off our old online donation platforms with Vanco and Realm at the end of the month. Starting this week, online donations will be exclusively through our new provider of Our Sunday Visitor. If you have not checked recently, we added the various second collections to the online platform as well as our regular Sunday Offertory, Maintenance Fund, and 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fund. Starting in May, Our Sunday Visitor will also be our new offertory envelope provider. I will write more about that when we receive our first set of envelopes. For your information, your Pastor receives offertory envelopes too, but that is so I can check them to make sure they are correct. I prefer to donate online.

*Father Schunk*

## Online Giving Transition

As we have been announcing, we are almost done with 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. We will have the systems running parallel through the end of March at which time the older systems will go 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.

Our Saint of the Week

## Saint Francis of Paola

Saint Francis of Paola, O.M. was an Italian mendicant friar and the founder of the Roman Catholic Order of Minims. Unlike the majority of founders of men's religious orders, and like his patron saint, Francis was never ordained a priest. But he is considered to be a patron saint of **boatmen, mariners, and naval officers**. His liturgical feast day is celebrated by the Roman Catholic Church on April 2nd, the day on which he died.



He was an Italian contemplative hermit who founded the Hermits of St. Francis of Assisi in 1474, also known as the “Minims” because of their commitment to humility and continual penance. St Francis was born in the town of Paola, which lies in the southern Italian Province Calabria. In his youth he was educated by the Franciscan friars in Paola. His parents, having remained childless for some years after their marriage, had recourse to prayer and especially commended themselves to the intercession of Francis of Assisi, after whom they named their first-born son. Two other children were eventually born to them.

When still in the cradle, Francis suffered from a swelling which endangered the sight of one of his eyes. His parents again had recourse to Francis of Assisi and made a vow that their son should pass an entire year wearing the "little habit" of St Francis in one of the friaries of his Order, a not-uncommon practice in the Middle Ages. The child subsequently recovered. At the age of 13, being admonished by a vision of a Franciscan friar, he entered a friary of the Franciscan Order to fulfill the vow made by his parents.

# Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK

## Monday, Mar 31

8:00 a.m. † **Esmenia Batunga**  
(By: John & Marilyn Lee)

## Tuesday, Apr 1

8:00 a.m. † **Aniceto Caunan**  
(By: Adele Caunan)

## Wednesday, Apr 2

8:00 a.m. *Sp. Int.* † **Mary Molly Mullaney**  
(By: St. Stephen Parish Staff)

## Thursday, Apr 3

8:00 a.m. *Sp. Int.* † **Neil Cheng**  
(By: Cheng Family)

## Friday, Apr 4

8:00 a.m. † **Padraic Stanton**  
(By: Rose O'Connor)

## Saturday, Apr 5

8:00 a.m. † **Elaine Arata**  
(By: Imelda Daly)

4:30 p.m. † **Leonard Stefanelli**  
(By: Virginia Stefanelli)

## Sunday, Apr 6

8:00 a.m. † **People of the Parish.**  
(By: Fr. Schunk)

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

6:30 p.m. † **Edward Thomas Gallagher**  
(By: Larry Gallagher)

## TOAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** *Joshua 5:9a,10-12*  
The Israelites celebrate the Passover in the promised land.

**Responsorial Psalm** *Psalm 34:2-7*  
A prayer of praise to God.

**Second Reading** *2 Corinthians 5:17-21*  
Paul preaches our reconciliation with Christ.

**Gospel Reading** *Luke 15:1-3,11-32*  
Jesus teaches about forgiveness in the parable of the Prodigal Son

## 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](http://www.osvhub.com/saintstephensf/giving/funds)

## Stewardship: A Way of Life Sunday Collections - March 22-23, 2025

\$ 4,162.75 Sunday Collection  
\$ 956.00 Online Offering

"Lent comes providentially to reawaken us, to shake us from our lethargy" — Pope Francis



## Come join us! Stations of the Cross

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

## 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](http://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

## 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.

**Peggy Teshara, Cristina Young, Tresa Matthews, GeriAnne Martin, Mary MacKinny, Alex & Marie, Greg Iorio, Ana Caballero, Larry & Carmelita Gallagher, Perry Young, Pacita Calimlim-Sagun, Araceli Caparas, George Farrales, 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 Barbieri, Marc Gutierrez, Catherine Scosseria, Gwendolyn Walsh, Joel Rivera, Ronald Gipson, Jovita & Richard Thompson, Pacing Tanangco**

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




*St. Stephen Women's Guild*  
**MAMMA MIA FASHION SHOW**  
 Saturday, April 5th  
 at the Olympic Club  
 Purchase your tickets  
 online  
[www.sswgfashionshow.com](http://www.sswgfashionshow.com)

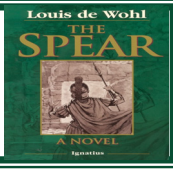

**75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fund**

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!

**St. Stephen Parish**  
*Rooted in Faith  
 Growing with Love*



**St. Stephen's Book Club**  
 April's book: *The Spear*  
 by Louis De Wohl

**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 Years-** what they are and how we can celebrate 2025 as the designated Jubilee Year of Hope! 2025 has been designated as a Jubilee Year of Hope in the Church. But what are Jubilee Years? Where do they come from? What have they been historically? What are they today? How do we celebrate them? and finally, what does a Jubilee Year for Hope mean specifically for us in 2025?

## Easter Flowers

As we prepare for the solemnity of Easter, we look forward to the joy of the Resurrection. We hope to express our joy by filling our church with a bountiful display of Easter flowers.

If you would like to have a flower placed in our church, please fill out this form and return it to the O'Reilly Parish Office **not later than Wednesday, April 15, 2025.**

Please include a contribution of \$20.00 per plant.

**I would like to have Easter flowers placed in the church in loving memory of:**

.....


**I would like to have Easter flowers placed in the church in honor of:**

.....

**My name is** .....

**My telephone #** .....

**Enclosed is my donation of \$**.....



## WinterFaith Shelter Walk

April 6 around Lake Merced.

Join or support 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.

Last year Faith Formation students and teachers walked and volunteered at the water station, and raised more than \$500. Won't you join us? Donate online (or register to walk with us):

[www.bit.ly/StS-FogWalkers](http://www.bit.ly/StS-FogWalkers)



## From the Archive: Parish Clubs 1950-1953

The "Original" Youth Group for Teens!

### MARIAN CLUB

Perhaps it was its dedication to The Blessed Mother, or perhaps the caliber of its first officers and charter members, or its sponsorship by the Women's Guild and the Men's Club, or perhaps the undeniable strength of these forces combined, but in whatever sphere of influence lies the success of The Marian Club, nevertheless this group of teen age high school students founded in September 1950, has already achieved undisputed first place among similar organizations in the entire metropolitan area.

The first officers were: Kevin Cook, President; Virginia Leishman, Vice-President; Arlene Burke, Secretary; Cecilia Ward, Treasurer; Dick Harms, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Bill Doyle, Committee Chairman.

Charter Members were: Barbara Anderson, Barbara Bilafer, Arlene Burke, Claire Concannon, Kevin Cook, Frank Crotty, Jim Haran, Dick Harms, Virginia Leishman, Mike Miller, John Scully, Eleanor Tyrrell, Mary Walker, Cele Ward, Lois Ward, Alan Warnick and Mary Jane Watson.

Mr. and Mrs. Oakley Cook generously opened their home to the young people for all meetings and informal socials.

Assisting them in sponsoring the many club projects were: Messrs. Frank Pacelli, George Railton and Alan Warrack from the Men's Club, and Mesdames Cecilia Ward, John Scully and Richard Harms from the Women's Guild.

Marian Highlights: Religious – Monthly Holy Communion. Athletic – Regular competition with neighboring clubs. Pleasant Nostalgia – Senior Farewell Banquet to graduating members. Social – Hotel Mark Hopkins St. Patrick's Day Dance, acme of teen age social season. Charitable – Annual Easter Party for 35 little girls from Mt. St. Joseph's Home . . . prizes, candy, entertainment . . . husky raw-boned teenagers with tiny tots in tow . . . Myra Gray, chairman.

Present Officers: John Scully, President; Pat Cronin, Vice-President; Norma Bargioni, Secretary; Jack Burke, Treasurer; Barbara De Martini and Jack McCullough, Sergeants-at-Arms.

Moderator: Father J. Thomas Madden.

Long before the Newman Club joined our parish we've had a rich history of active young adults!

### MERCED CLUB

This most important post-high school group of our Parish was organized August 12, 1952, and has already demonstrated a mature realization of Parish responsibility in its monthly Communion-Breakfasts, its regular meetings, its valuable participation in the Parish Picnic, its varied social activities extending from Montara Beach to Badger Pass and its thoughtful farewell party to the young men leaving for the Armed Services.

Under the sponsorship of Dr. E. W. Norris, representing the St. Stephen's Men's Club, a splendid nucleus of sixteen members, four of whom are in military service, have founded an organization that promises one day to be a tremendous force in the spiritual and social life of our community.

The present officers are Creighton F. Norris, President; Al Modena, Vice-President, serving in place of Ed Moran in Army Service; Mimi Collignon, Secretary, and Arlene Burke, Treasurer.

Our Altar Society is still going strong!

### ALTAR SOCIETY

The Altar of St. Stephen's from the earliest day of our modest basement chapel has always been a model of exquisite simplicity.

At first a loving spontaneity and later the well ordered sponsorship of the Women's Guild have found the following members of the Altar Society arranging the most beautiful blooms appropriate to the liturgical season against a

background of handworked linens: Mrs. Edward Duggan, Mrs. John Hally, Miss Frances Compagno, Mrs. Edward Moran, Mrs. William Lucas, Mrs. William Taylor, Mrs. Ed McKeever, Mrs. John O'Donnell, Mrs. Alfred Koski.

As a tribute to their efforts a fully equipped Altar Society Room with every facility adaptable to floral artistry has been installed immediately adjacent to our new Altar.

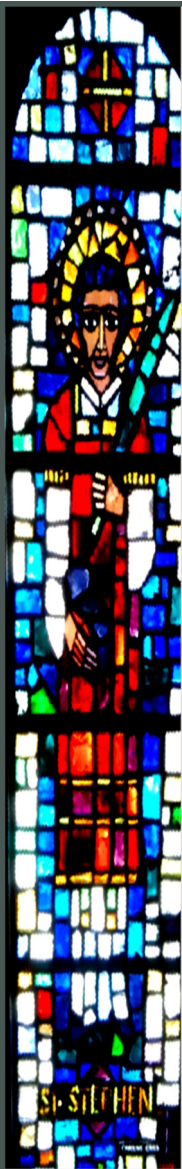
### CHOIR

In the founding of a new Parish, St. Stephen's was extraordinarily fortunate in discovering accomplished musical talent among its members. Under the capable direction of Mrs. Everett Gray, assisted by Miss Lois Ward, organist, our services and feast days have been graced by first rate choral work

revealing rare natural gifts as well as a devotion to the rehearsals requisite to musical success.

In addition to Mrs. Gray and Miss Ward the members are: Mrs. Thomas Blanchard, Mrs. William J. Anderson, Mrs. Joseph Neville and Mrs. Joseph E. Tinney.

We are blessed with 2 choirs now! One for the 10:30 AM Mass and another for the 6:30 PM Mass.



## PASTORAL STAFF

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

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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*

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

Contact Shay at 415.681.2444 x7  
or email:

[DonworthEvents@SaintStephenSF.org](mailto:DonworthEvents@SaintStephenSF.org)