

Saint Stephen Parish

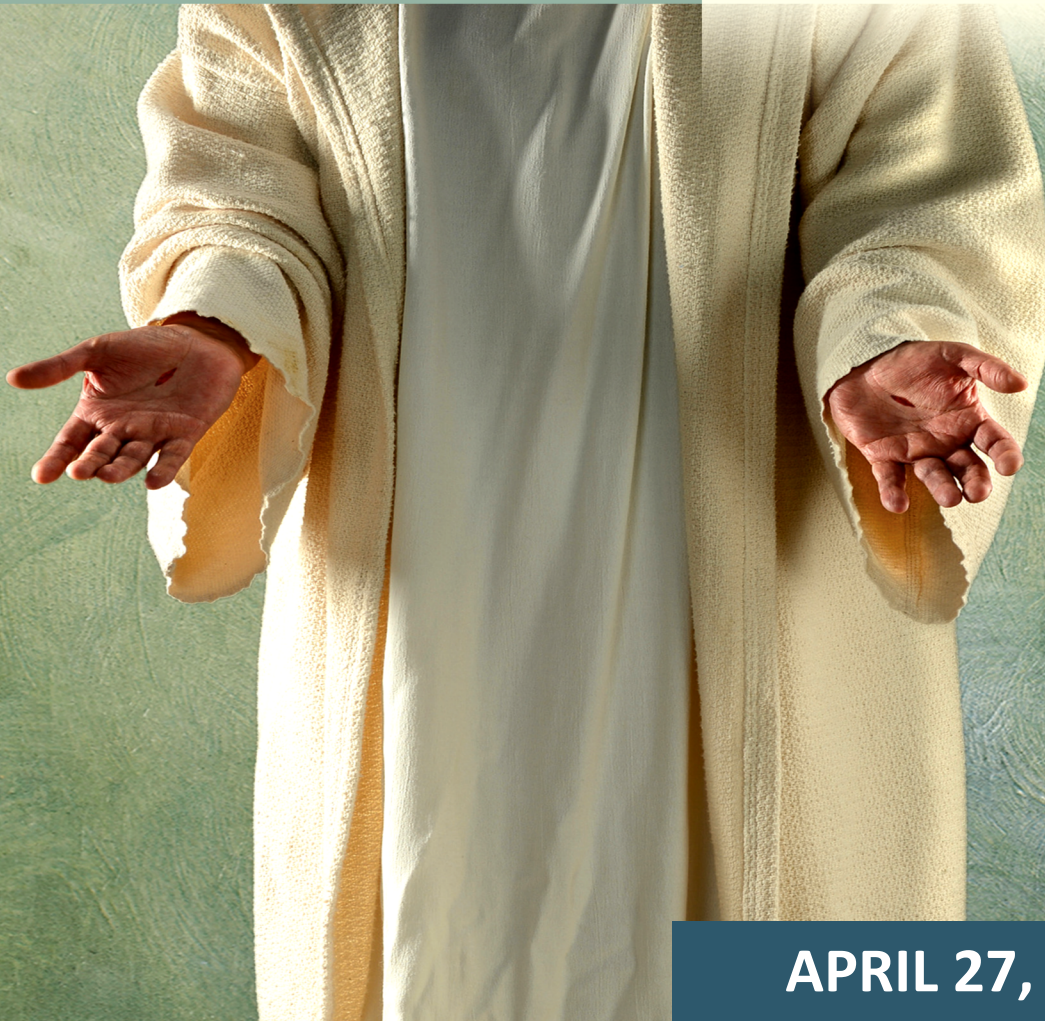
SaintStephenSF.org | 451 Eucalyptus Dr., San Francisco CA 94132 | Church 415 681-2444
StStephenSchoolSF.org | 401 Eucalyptus Dr., San Francisco 94132 | School 415 664-8331

Daily Mass: Mondays thru Saturdays 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.

Second Sunday of Easter (or Sunday of Divine Mercy)

*Jesus said to Thomas,
“Have you come to
believe because you
have seen me?
Blessed are those
who have not seen
and have believed.”*

John 20:29



APRIL 27, 2025



April 27, 2025

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As we begin our Easter celebrations, the Church and the world mourns the death of our Holy Father, Pope Francis. One of the roles of a pope is universal pastor, and I think that is a role/title that fit Pope Francis very well. Like a pastor of sheep, he desired to be with people in their midst, walking with them on their journey and encouraging us to do the same with one another. On this Sunday of Divine Mercy, we may recall early in his pontificate declaring for the Church a special Jubilee Year of Mercy. Mindful of God's love for us, it was an invitation for all of us not to be separated from God, but to enter into the Lord's embrace in the midst of the difficulties and struggles of our lives.

With his passing from this world to the next, we pray that Pope Francis will be welcomed into the Father's house as I encourage all of us to pray for him. During the coming weeks, we will likely be putting a pause on our bulletin sections for our 75th Anniversary and use the space to share information on Pope Francis, what is known as the period of *sede vacante* (empty chair [reference to the chair of St. Peter]), and the election of our next pope.

This coming Saturday will be a special day at our parish as a group of our young parishioners receive the sacrament of the Eucharist for the very first time. We pray for all of them that as they receive Jesus Christ, that he will transform their lives and draw them into greater communion with himself.

As we mentioned in the bulletin last week, we welcome this weekend two of our seminarians who are studying for the priesthood in the Archdiocese of San Francisco, Kyle Lalluces and Jeff Yanos. They will be speaking at the Saturday evening Mass and Sunday morning Masses.

As we approach May, for those who receive the offertory envelopes, you will notice that there is a special envelope for Mother's Day where you may write the names of our mothers, grandmothers, etc., as we remember them on our altar at Mass on Mother's Day on May 11. You may return the envelopes in the regular collection or to the parish office. We will also put out in the vestibule some envelopes for you to use if you do not receive offertory envelopes.

A final word of thanks to everyone who has been praying for my father's recent surgery. As of the time I write this, he is doing very well and now begins his post-surgery recovery, which hopefully will not be too long. My family and I are grateful for all your prayers and support.

Father Schunk

Thank You: We acknowledge

I take this opportunity to thank and acknowledge those who sacrificed so much time and sharing their gifts and talents in helping make Holy Week and Easter liturgies so beautiful and prayerful . . .

To our **Choir, Cantors, Musicians** – thank you for lifting our prayers in song.

To our **Altar Servers** – thank you for your dedicated assistance at Jesus' altar, you helped prayer run smoothly

To our many **Sacristans** – thank you for making sure everything was in the "ready."

To our **Ushers** – thank you for your welcoming presence and your assistance in that very "important" task.

To our **Altar Society** – Thank you for make making sure our church was clean, presentable and comfortable.

To our **Liturgical Ministers** – thank you for proclaiming the Word and assisting with Holy Communion.

To our **Liturgy Committee** – thank you for making sure all those named above, were in place.

St. Stephen Parish congratulates the participants of O.C.I.A. who received the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil:

Baptized, Confirmed & First Communion:

Jayleen "Gianna" Flores Chaidez

Tyler "Augustine" Sharp

Confirmed & First Communion:

Minna "Bridgette" Millare

Macarena "Peregrine" Puig

Confirmed:

Gerardo "José Luis" Zuniga III

Please keep them in your prayers as they begin their journey as fully initiated Catholics.

OUR CHALLENGE

Let us accept God's invitation to celebrate and practice mercy. One way the Church celebrates God's mercy throughout the year is through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Finding time for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is another good way to receive Divine Mercy. The Gospel command, "*Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful,*" demands that we show mercy to our fellow human beings always and everywhere. We radiate God's mercy to others by our actions, our words, and our prayers. It is mainly through the corporal and spiritual works of mercy that we practice mercy in our daily lives and become eligible for God's merciful judgment.

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK

Monday, Apr 28

8:00 a.m. † **Juanita Kiack**
(By: Shirley Dee)

Tuesday, Apr 29

8:00 a.m. *Sp. Int.* **Maria Helena Xavier**
(By: Maria Xavier)

Wednesday, Apr 30

8:00 a.m. *Sp. Int.* **Nerissa Ha**
(By: FDS, Parish Staff & Vol)

Thursday, May 1

8:00 a.m. *Sp. Int.* **Maureen Kirwan**
(By: Maureen Kirwan)

Friday, May 2

8:00 a.m. † **Joseph Prete**
(By: Ed & Cecilia Prete)

Saturday, May 3

8:00 a.m. † **Con & Bridget O'Callaghan**
(By: O'Callaghan Family)

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

Sunday, May 4

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

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

6:30 p.m. † **Jeanie Barry**
(By: Nancy Smith)

TOAY'S READINGS

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 5:12-16

Peter and the apostles perform many signs and wonders.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 118:2-4,13-15,22-24

A song of praise to the Lord.

Second Reading

Revelation 1:9-11a,12-13,17-19

John describes the instruction he received to write down his vision.

Gospel Reading

John 20:19-31

Thomas believes because he sees Jesus.

Our 20,000 Square Foot Parish Center Available to Rent for Special Occasions

For more information, call Shay Ingelfinger at 415 681-2444 ext.7 or donworthevents@saintstephensf.org regarding the hourly rate available for our parishioners.

Stewardship: A Way of Life Sunday Collections - April 19-20, 2025

\$ 14,096.30	Easter Sunday Collection
\$ 1,795.90	Online Offering
\$ 1,044.55	Second Collection—Building Faith

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



75th Anniversary Fund

Our Goal \$250,0000

Total received to date \$23,293

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 info. Households who donate at least \$1000 to the fund during the year will have the opportunity to engrave a leaf on our donation tree. For donations of \$10k or more during the year, the priests will cook you dinner!

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



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, Perry Young, Larry & Carmelita Gallagher, Pacita Calimlim-Sagun, Araceli Caparas, George Farrales, Al Vicente Jr, Antoinette Mishirsky, Tony Devincenzi, Julie Burton, Nestor & Nelson Plondaya, Marie Bachand, Rodney Clark, Michelle Vicente, Eden Finn, Michelle Weeks, Franz Tittiger, Carlota Plondaya, Robert Liam, Larry Barbiere, Kenneth Fambrini, Marc Gutierrez, Catherine Scosseria, Gwendolyn Walsh, Joel Rivera, Jovita & Richard Thompson.

Please call the office to add or remove names

St. Stephen's Men's Club

Cougar Classic Golf Tournament Friday May 9, 2025 TPC Harding Park

11AM Check in | 12PM Shotgun Start
Scramble Format | Food | Drinks
Longest Drive | Closest to the Hole | Raffle
Prizes | Free Parking
\$300 per player
Benefitting the St. Stephen
Athletic Department
Register at
StStephenCougarClassic.com

"I see clearly that the thing the church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful; it needs nearness, proximity. I see the church as a field hospital after battle." – Pope Francis

Kentucky Derby Day

Catholic Charities event on Saturday, May 3, 1:30pm-4:30pm at St. Vincent's School for Boys in San Rafael. This is a fun, family friendly event benefitting Catholic Charities programs.

www.CatholicCharitiesSF.org/DerbyDay



YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY @ ST. STEPHEN NEWMAN NIGHTS

@NEWMAN_AT_SFSU

MAY
01

GIANTS GAME

Meet at St. Stephen's at 5:30 / Game start: 6:45 PM

END OF YEAR BARBECUE

6:30-8:00 PM / 601 Eucalyptus Dr. / Bring a treat to share!

MAY
08

NEWMAN CATHOLIC CLUB AT SFSU

St. Stephen Catholic Church / 601 Eucalyptus Dr.

The Blessing and Sprinkling of Holy Water at Mass during the Easter Season

The Roman Missal provides that on Sundays the blessing and sprinkling of holy water may take the place of the usual Penitential Act at the beginning of Mass. This is done in remembrance of our baptism. When this is used, it comes immediately after the greeting and the priest blesses the water before he sprinkles it.



The Rite for the Blessing and Sprinkling of Water is especially recommended for Easter Time. The priest begins by inviting the people to ask God to bless the water which will be sprinkled on them as a reminder of their baptism and also that they may remain faithful to the Spirit which they have received.

In the blessing of water for the Easter season, the priest speaks of the wonderful work of our creation and the even greater work of our redemption in Christ. He recalls that God made water the instrument of his mercy. Then in a clear reference to the exodus of the children of Israel from Egypt through the Red Sea, he speaks of how, through water, God freed his people from slavery. Also, in reference to the forty years that Israel spent in the desert, the priest notes that through water from the rock, the Lord quenched the thirst of his people in the desert. Then in recalling Christ's baptism in the Jordan, the priest refers to the fact that Christ, by his own baptism, made the very waters of baptism holy. Finally, the priest prays that the water that is blessed may be a memorial of the baptism which those in the congregation have received and that they may also share the joy of those who were baptized that year at the Easter Vigil.

The sprinkling during the Easter Season has customarily been accompanied by the chant which begins with the words of Ezekiel 47:1: *Vidi aquam egredientem de templo, a latere dextro, alleluia. Et omnes ad quos pervenit aqua ista, salvi facti sunt. Et dicent: alleluia, alleluia* (I saw water flowing from the right side of the temple, alleluia. And all to whom this water came were saved. And they will say: alleluia, alleluia). This chant begins a passage which further on speaks of other images of abundant life and healing, images that someone familiar with this passage recalls almost automatically: *the water becomes a great river; it makes the salt waters fresh; wherever the river flows, every living creature that can multiply will live; along the banks of the river trees of every kind will grow; they will bear fruit every month; their fruit will serve as food and their leaves for medicine.*

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



Easter Flowers

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

<i>Aaron Denise</i>	<i>Thelma Ramos</i>
<i>Beatrice & Freddy Abraham</i>	<i>Nilo & Angionia Seghetti</i>
<i>Agrifina Cercado</i>	<i>Leonard Stefanelli</i>
<i>Chang-Ha Family</i>	<i>Lee & Florence Stone</i>
<i>Jerry & Julia Fitzgerald</i>	<i>Yun Chan Tam</i>
<i>Peter Ganduglia</i>	<i>Loon Fun Tam</i>
<i>Albert Gragnani</i>	<i>John Tam</i>
<i>Michael Gragnani</i>	<i>Anna Macalino Thompson</i>
<i>Olivia Gragnani</i>	<i>Jacqueline Macalino Thompson</i>
<i>Liz Porter Gragnani & Child</i>	<i>Henry & Teresa Thron</i>
<i>Claudio Hrvatin</i>	<i>Mary & Rocco Yiu</i>
<i>Ignacio & Giuseppina Hrvatin</i>	
<i>Javier-Agoo Family</i>	
<i>Rosa & JP Lopez</i>	
<i>Alfonso & Albina Manlucu</i>	
<i>Leo T McCarthy</i>	
<i>Joseph Montalbano</i>	
<i>Pat & Betty Moriarty</i>	
<i>Tom & Vivian Mullaney</i>	

IN HONOR OF:

Zenaida J. Agoo
Rev. Bill Brady
Rev. Tony LaTorre
McGloin-Chase Families

Franciscus

Jorge Mario Bergoglio

March 13, 2013 ~ April 21, 2025

266th Pope of the Catholic Church

Statement by Archbishop Cordileone on the death of Pope Francis

Upon learning the news of Pope Francis' passing, let us join together in prayer that the Lord may grant him safe passage to the heavenly Kingdom, and give him the reward of God's good and faithful servants. The outpouring of prayers, good will and love for our Holy Father not only from Catholics but from people of different faiths all over the world is edifying and personally fills me with gratitude.

Pope Francis called on us all to give more, sacrifice more, and care more about the poorest and most vulnerable, from the tiny infant in the womb, to the elderly and infirm, to the migrant and the refugee. Let us take inspiration from his words and example and put that inspiration into action. That is the greatest tribute we could give to him.



Eternal rest grant unto Pope Francis, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

<https://sfarch.org/pope-francis/>

Upon News of the Pope's Death

(adapted from U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops)

Upon the death of the Pope, the Diocesan Bishop should contact all the parishes and parochial schools asking for immediate prayers for the deceased Pontiff. The custom of praying the *Our Father*, *Hail Mary* and *Glory Be* throughout the day is to be encouraged, as is the recitation of the Rosary for the repose of his soul. The prayer *Eternal Rest* is also appropriate.

At the direction of the College of Cardinals, the *novendiales* ("nine days") are customarily observed as official days of mourning in Rome and throughout the Church. In an appropriate place in the church, a fitting picture of the deceased Pontiff may be discreetly placed on view. Black bunting may be placed around the picture, as well as on the façade or over the doors to the church.

Prayer for Pope Francis

O God, faithful rewarder of souls, grant that your departed servant Pope Francis, whom you made successor of Peter and shepherd of your Church, may happily enjoy for ever in your presence in heaven the mysteries of your grace and compassion, which he faithfully ministered on earth. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.