

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.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

*Whoever loves me
will keep my word,
and my Father
will love them,
and we will come
to them and make our
dwelling with them.*

John 14:23

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May 25, 2025



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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Tomorrow, we celebrate Memorial Day as we remember generations of men and women of the Armed Forces who have made the sacrifices of their lives in service of their fellow citizens, and the men, women, and families who continue to make sacrifices every day for our Nation. This commemoration is an opportunity for us to pray for them and their loved ones and helps us to realize that countries and the common good are forged and sustained through the sacrifices of her citizens. We Christians understand this as we believe that sacrifice is not something empty, but redemptive, and something done as the ultimate expression of love for another person. May we continue to honor their sacrifices by sacrificing ourselves for our fellow citizens.

As many of you are aware, we are still fortunate to have our church remain open during the day for prayer. I am edified by how many people will stop in the church on a regular basis to make a visit to the Blessed Sacrament or spend a moment in quiet prayer. We have also had formal Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass for several years, and for the past two years, on a daily basis. However, with the ever-changing schedules of Father Lilledahl and myself, starting in June, we are going to have Adoration just on Mondays from 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM, rather than every weekday. Of course, the church will continue to remain open for prayer and our Rosary Group continues to invite all to join them in praying the Rosary after daily Mass.

This week is bittersweet as we say farewell to the thirty 8th Graders of our parish school who are graduating and moving on to continue their scholarly pursuits at the various Catholic, private, and public high schools in our area. We are all very proud of their growth and accomplishments over the years and know they will do very well with the preparation they have received. A word of thanks to the parents of the graduates who have put in much time and their talents over the years to help make our programs and community vibrant and strong.

As you know, we have been raising money as part of our 75th Anniversary Fund to help with maintenance projects around the parish. I am edified by the generosity of our parishioners who are assisting with this project and as I write this, it appears we are surpassing the \$40,000 mark. We published a wonderful story in the Easter bulletin by one of our parishioners that spoke how we can do great things as a parish if we each do our part. In that spirit, I want to acknowledge a special donation we recently received from the Students of Saint Stephen's School. Each month, they have a charity free dress day with the funds raised going to a charity/cause the students choose. For one of their final charity free dress days of the year, the students chose to give the money they raised to the 75th Anniversary Fund. I was very moved by the gesture of their generosity, thoughtfulness, and co-responsibility as parishioners of our parish. They are an example to all of us that if we each contribute our own bit, we can do great things as a community.

Father Schunk

Stories from the AAA *Your gifts to the AAA support many ministries, such as the Restorative Justice Ministry, whose mission is to provide healing and rehabilitation opportunities to those affected by crime—both victims and offenders. They advocate for justice and promote peace as they serve, trying to create a more harmonious and just society. Here is one story from their ministry:*

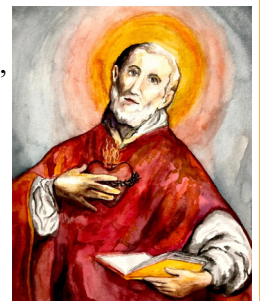
Your generosity to the AAA helps to sponsor the **Restorative Justice Ministry** which hosts an annual Christmas Angels program for children. Every child who attends has at least one parent who is incarcerated, deceased, or there has been domestic violence in the home. For many of these children, this is their Christmas. The parents/guardians who attend are overcome with appreciation, and one boy, when entering the gathering, stopped in his tracks, his mouth agape, and whispered "It's Santa Claus."

OUR SAINT OF THE WEEK **St. Philip Neri**

Philip Neri was born in Florence, Italy, in 1515. At the age of 18, Philip was sent to his uncle, Romolo, a wealthy merchant at San Germano, a Neapolitan town near the base of Monte Cassino, to assist him in his business, and with the hope that he might inherit his uncle's fortune. He gained Romolo's confidence and affection, but soon after coming to San Germano Philip had a religious conversion. From then onward, he no longer cared for things of the world, and decided in 1533 to live in Rome.

While in Rome, he studied philosophy and theology, and tutored young boys. Eventually Philip became bored of learning, so he sold all of his books, gave the money he received from them to the poor, and visited the sick under the guidance of the Augustinians. Later, he co-founded the Confraternity of the Most Holy Trinity and began to preach, and many people converted thanks to Philip's preaching and example. He was ordained in 1551. Many people came to him for confession. He also began to work with youth. Pope Gregory XIV wanted to make Philip a cardinal, but the priest declined.

He then founded the Congregation of the Oratory, also known as the Oratorians, dedicated to preaching and teaching, and they still exist today. He died May 27, 1595, and was canonized by Pope Gregory XV in 1622. He is the patron of Rome and the U.S. Army Special Forces.



Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Monday, May 26

8:00 a.m. **All Veterans, Living & Deceased**
(By: Fr. Schunk)

Tuesday, May 27

8:00 a.m. † **Alfonso Espino**
(By: Teresa Vinluan)

Wednesday, May 28

8:00 a.m. Sp. Int. **Gulmohar Chayande**
(By: Aisa Hara & Kiara)

Thursday, May 29

8:00 a.m. † **Raul & Yelba Delgado**
(By: Hugo Delgado)

Friday, May 30

8:00 a.m. Sp. Int. **Nerissa Ha**
(By: Fr. Schunk & Staff)

Saturday, May 31

8:00 a.m. † **Bill Herbert**
(By: Ed & Cecelia Prete)

4:30 pm † **Denis O'Connor**
(By: Rose O'Connor)

Sunday, Jun 1

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

10:30 a.m. † **Cristino Pascual**
(By: Emma Sagala)

6:30 p.m. † **Mohammed Eltakrori**
(By: Luis Gaerlan)

TOAY'S READINGS, May 25, 2025

First Reading *Acts of the Apostles 15:1-2,22-29*
The early Church community determines, with the help of the Holy Spirit, not to impose the requirement of circumcision on Gentile Christians.

Responsorial Psalm *Psalm 67:2-3,5,6,8*
A prayer that all the nations sing praise to God.

Second Reading *Revelation 21:10-14,22-23*
The vision of the splendor of the heavenly Jerusalem is described.

Gospel Reading *John 14:23-29*
Jesus promises his disciples that the Father will send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit.



SAINTS AND SPECIAL BSERVANCES

Sunday: **Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Monday: **Memorial Day**

Tuesday: **St. Augustine of Canterbury**

Thursday: **St. Paul VI Pope**

Saturday: **Visitation of the Blessed Virgin**

Stewardship: A Way of Life

Sunday Collections May 17-18, 2025

\$ 4,410.00 Sunday Collection
\$ 1,304.00 Online Offering

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



Tomorrow
MEMORIAL DAY
Parish Offices Closed



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.

Cristina Young, Tresa Matthews, GeriAnne Martin, Mary MacKinny, Alex & Marie, Greg Iorio, Ana Caballero, Perry Young, Araceli Caparas, Larry & Carmelita Gallagher, George Farrales, Al Vicente Jr, Antoinette Mishirsky, Tony Devincenzi, Julie Burton, Nestor & Nelson Plondaya, Marie Bachand, Rodney Clark, Michelle Vicente, Michelle Weeks, Franz Tittiger, Robert Liam, Larry Barbieri, Kenneth Fambrini, Marc Gutierrez, Catherine Scosseria, Gwendolyn Walsh, Joel Rivera, Eden Finn, Jovita & Richard Thompson.

Please call the office to add or remove names

Seeking Memories

If you have any photos or stories of events at St. Stephen's Church or School we would love for you to share them.

Please email stories or photos to:

memories@SaintStephenSF.org



Children's Liturgy on Sundays at 10:30 Mass has ended for the school year, but will begin again in the Fall.

*If there are volunteer teachers who would like to keep teaching this summer please reach out to Mary Molly in the parish office.

Catholic Vacation in Oregon: A group of people, originally through St. Dominic's Church in SF, has organized a family vacation at the St. Benedict's Lodge & Retreat Center in McKenzie Bridge, Oregon, located on the beautiful McKenzie River. People of all ages are welcome to join, families with children, singles, adults, seniors. Unwind and reconnect with nature surrounded by God's beauty. Plenty of recreational activities are available: hiking, river rafting, fishing, golf, or just relaxing on the patio next to the river. Daily Mass is offered in the Chapel. Owned and run by the Dominican order. **Dates are June 23-30, 2025.** Bring your own blankets/ sleeping bag/ pillow case, and transportation. Meals are cooked by the group. Cost of food and lodging is approx. \$500 for the week.

www.sblodge.opwest.org

Contact Mary Molly for more info or to register.

(415) 335-6879



St. Stephen School

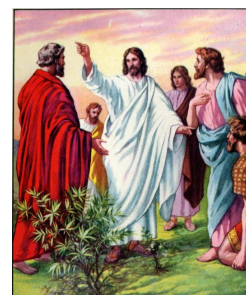
St. Stephen School is accepting applications for the 2025-2026 school year. Applications can be found under the admissions tab on the school website and are available in the school office.

Please contact Mrs. Mullen directly at:

415-664-8331 with any questions. Thank you!

Background on Today's Gospel Reading

This portion of John's Gospel comes near the end of the first of four chapters that make up Jesus' long farewell discourse at the Last Supper. This section of chapter 14 actually sums up the themes of the opening of the discourse: the Christian's life is not shaped by Jesus' absence but by God's abiding presence; God's presence overcomes anxiety about God's absence; and the present holds in it the seeds of a fresh future shaped by love, not fear. These verses also contain a glimpse of some of the other themes of the farewell discourse: Jesus' relationship with the Father and the disciples' relationship to Jesus connect the disciples to the Father as well. Jesus promises to send an Advocate or intercessor who will remind the disciples of everything that Jesus taught them and bring them peace.



Jesus is preparing his disciples in advance for his absence so that they will continue to believe in him and not feel all alone after his return to the Father. After the initial excitement of his Easter appearances, Jesus will remain with his followers in a very different way throughout the centuries.

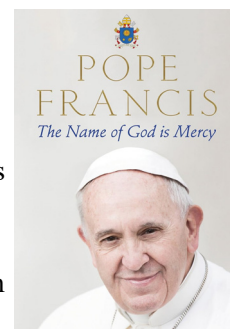
As our celebration of the Easter season is coming to an end, the liturgy reminds us that Jesus remains with us through the Holy Spirit, who teaches us everything we need to know, reminds us of all that Jesus taught, and brings us peace.

St. Stephen's Book Club

May's book:

The Name of God Is Mercy

by Pope Francis



In his first book as pope, Pope Francis explores the universal theme of mercy, as a spiritual inspiration to both followers of Christianity and non-Christians around the world.

Drawing on his own experience as a priest and shepherd, he discusses mercy, a subject of central importance in his religious teaching and testimony, and in addition sums up other ideas – reconciliation, the closeness of God – that comprise the heart of his papacy. Written in conversation with Vatican expert and journalist Andrea Tornielli, *The Name of God is Mercy* is directed at everyone, inside or outside of the Catholic Church, seeking meaning in life, a road to peace and reconciliation, or the healing of physical or spiritual wounds.

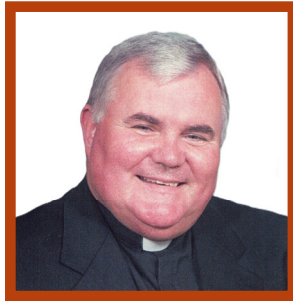
Meeting: Friday, May 30 @ 4pm in parish office. Contact Mary Molly for info.

From the Archive: **Pastors of Saint Stephen Parish—Part II**

Father Joseph Walsh

(Pastor 1997-2010)

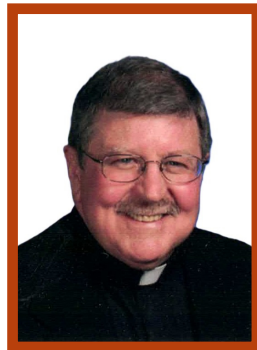
Fr. Walsh began his term as pastor by reaching out to many individual families of the parish to learn of their concerns, interests and thoughts on the direction for the parish. Fr. Walsh believed in the power of the individual's ability to make concrete decisions based on the posture of the Second Vatican Council. He also conducted many Saturday morning Bible studies which many enjoyed. Fr. Walsh, along with the aid of school principal, Mrs. Sharon Allen, initiated a parish capital campaign to help fund the multipurpose hall/gymnasium which is called Donworth Hall. This multipurpose facility is enjoyed by both the parish and school for various activities such as banquets, receptions, hosting CYO basketball games, etc.



Father Paul Warren

(Pastor 2010-2016)

When Fr. Paul first joined the Archdiocese, his first assignment was pastoral associate under Fr. Walsh at St. Stephen's Parish until 2002. His next assignment was at St. Gregory Parish in San Mateo. Upon his return to St. Stephen as pastor in 2010, he wanted to emphasize the spiritual renewal of the parish during his tenure and did so by concentrating on the Liturgy of the Mass and homilies. Fr. Paul also emphasized and enjoyed the parish Lenten soup gatherings with guest speakers as a means of bringing parishioners together for nourishment and communal interaction. Fr. Paul continued Fr. Walsh's mission of financing Donworth Hall with the aid and support of school principal Mrs. Sharon Allen.



Father Tony LaTorre

(Pastor 2016-2021)

Fr. Tony was transferred as pastor from St. Philip's Parish to St. Stephen's Parish in 2016. Fr. Tony's tenure was marked by the COVID pandemic in 2020. He was quite the innovator during that time. When the pandemic closed churches, he quickly pivoted and initiated online streaming of Mass, made Communion available to parishioners outside of church after the live-streamed Mass, and kept the church open for parishioner visits. It should also be noted that under his stewardship, St. Stephen was one of few parishes which was able to successfully meet its goal for the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal for 2020. Fr. Tony is well known as a good cook and excellent baker. He prided



himself in cooking meals and baking for the parish staff for special occasions/birthdays. Fr. Tony also was known to be an avid quilter and enjoyed being chaplain for the Boy Scouts. He also liked to take walks and survey the church/school grounds with his dog, Vito.



Father Michael Liliedahl

(Pastor 2021-2024)

Fr. Michael attended Gonzaga University and continued his formal education in Massachusetts and then Washington, DC, working on a master's degree in education. While on the East Coast, he enjoyed teaching as well as coaching football, baseball, and basketball. Moving to San Francisco, he continued teaching and coaching for another 2 years before deciding to enter the seminary in June of 2017. After his ordination, his first assignment was at St. Cecilia Parish, then at St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Burlingame. While at St. Catherine's, Fr. Michael also taught and served as chaplain at Junipero Serra High School. After serving as pastor at St. Stephen's for 3 years, Fr. Michael stepped down as pastor to focus his time and energy as Chaplain for the San Francisco State University Newman Center, which is now homed at St. Stephen's, his graduate studies in theology, and part-time teaching at Saint Patrick's Seminary, while continuing to reside and assist at St. Stephen's.

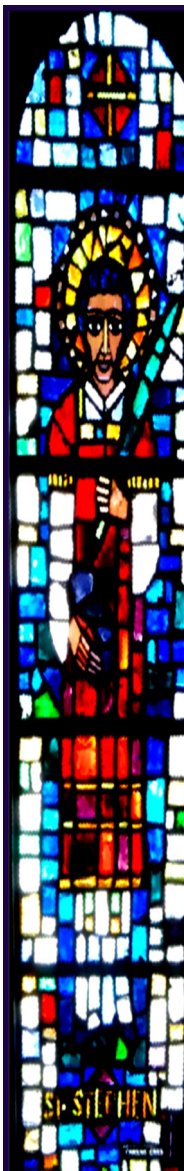


Father David Schunk

(Pastor 2024-present)

After graduating from college, Fr. Schunk began his career by teaching for 2 years but felt a calling to the priesthood. He entered the St. Patrick's Seminary in 2003 and 2 years later he was transferred to Rome to continue his priestly formation at the Pontifical North American College—the American national seminary in Rome. While in Rome he earned the equivalent of a bachelor's and master's degree in theology. Fr. Schunk was ordained a priest in June of 2010. His first assignment was parochial vicar at St. Gregory Parish in San Mateo. After 2 years, Fr. Schunk was named Vocation Director for the San Francisco Archdiocese and held that position from 2013-2017. While Vocation Director, he lived first at St. Paul's Parish and then at St. Gabriel's Parish. In 2017, Fr. Schunk joined the formation team of the Pontifical North American College in Rome where he was named Assistant Vice Rector, then Vice Rector during his 6-year tenure. Upon his return from Rome, Fr. Schunk was assigned to St. Monica-St. Thomas Parish as administrator. His next and current assignment is pastor of St. Stephen Parish. Fr. Schunk is currently spearheading the celebration of the 75-year Anniversary of St. Stephen Parish.





PASTORAL STAFF

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

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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 (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

DSV Service

Save the Date – A Grand Day
Sunday, July 27, 1:00–3:00pm

A fun day for
grandparents & their grandchildren
to come together and spend some
quality time with games and crafts.

www.bit.ly/a-grand-day