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.



SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 31, 2025

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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Tomorrow, we celebrate the civic holiday, Labor Day. As we celebrate this holiday this year, I think of our current Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV who chose his name to connect himself with his predecessor Pope Leo XIII, whose great encyclical letter *Rerum Novarum* on the rights and duties of capital and labor spoke to the economic and labor conditions of Pope Leo XIII's time and began modern Catholic social teaching. It also calls to mind that when Pope Leo XIV began his papacy, he spoke of artificial intelligence and how it

presents challenges for human dignity, justice, and labor. Certainly, a day does not seem to go by when we do not hear about AI in the news, see it mentioned on billboards, and prompts on our various devices. AI does pose many benefits and perhaps some of you have used it in some way whether in a search for information on the internet or for work tasks. But it is true it will pose challenges in the years to come. Like robots that replaced workers in factories decades ago, AI has the potential to disrupt the workforce. What used to be science fiction, artificial intelligence is now on the battlefield which makes war an even more morally dangerous proposition as decisions of life and death less human decisions. For AI cannot make decisions of compassion, love, or mercy, as those are human characteristics. AI only listens to itself, it does not listen to God as humans may do. Despite all this, AI will not be going away any time soon so it is up to the engineers and programmers to understand the limits of technology and how the primacy of the human person must be first in the development of new technology so that it serves human dignity, rather than endanger or destroy it.

Starting this week we will have a new neighbor on Ocean Avenue. On Friday, Catholic Charities is having the grand opening and ribbon cutting of the OMI Senior Center at 2616 Ocean Ave. (OMI stands for Oceanview-Merced Heights-Ingleside) While they have been in the area for some time, this new location is certainly a blessing for our local community as a place for seniors to go for recreation and support. For more information on the center, the programs they offer, and for volunteer information, see their website: https://catholiccharitiessf.org/omi-senior-center/Father Schunk

Background on Today's Gospel Reading

Meals played an important role in the society in which Jesus lived. More than a time for sharing nourishment, they were a time to share ideas and to model different aspects of social relationships. In Luke's Gospel, the places that a person ate (at the home of a tax collector, 5:29), the people with whom a person ate (sinners, 5:30), whether a person washed before eating (11:38), and, as is the case here, the place that a person sits while eating are all important. The narrator says Jesus tells a parable, but it is really wise advice to both guests and hosts about finding true happiness at the heavenly banquet.

Jesus warns guests to wait before taking their places at the table lest they be asked to move if someone more important arrives. This is more than just a lesson about dinner etiquette. It is advice on how to find your true place in the Kingdom of God. Jesus advises hosts not to invite people who would be expected to repay them to dinner but to invite those who could not repay: the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. This is where real blessings can be found.

In these sayings, Luke gives us not only advice on how to approach the end times but also on how to live according to Jesus' vision of a good society. Luke's Gospel also advises us how the Church must be part of bringing about this society. It is yet another example in Luke's Gospel of the reversal the kingdom brings about.

Mass Intentions

Mass intentions may be offered for our loved ones, living or deceased, for Masses on Sundays or weekdays, as we remember and pray for them in our Lord's Sacrifice. For scheduling and additional information about availability, please stop by the parish office or call 415-681-2444 during office hours.

The Sacraments for Adults

At this time of year, we want to invite adults who are interested in learning more about the Catholic Church and/or seeking Baptism, entering the Catholic Church from another Christian community, or adult Catholics who would like to receive the sacraments of the Eucharist and/or Confirmation to join our adult faith formation program that prepares people to receive the sacraments at Easter. For more information, please reach out to Father Schunk in the parish office (fr.schunk@saintstephensf.org).

OMI Senior Center Grand Opening & Open House

Location: 2616 Ocean Ave Phone Number: (415) 334-5550 Date: Friday, September 5, 2025 Time: 10:30 AM - 2:30 PM Ribbon Cutting: 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM THE **OMI SENIOR CENTER** PROVIDES A

FRIENDLY AND WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT
OFFERING DAILY ACTIVITIES
FOR SENIORS AND DISABLED ADULTS.

First Saturday Memorial Mass & Grief Support Gathering

Saturday, Sept. 6, 2025, 11:00a (Mass), Noon (Grief Support Gathering) Holy Cross Cemetery - 1500 Mission Road, Colma (All Saints Mausoleum Chapel) Contact: David Mehrwein - 650-264-7943 | dmehrwein@sfcathcems.org |



Monday, Sep 1

8:00 a.m.

Tuesday, Sep 2

8:00 a.m.

Wednesday, Sep 3

8:00 a.m.

Thursday, Sep 4

8:00 a.m

Friday, Sep 5

8:00 a.m.

Saturday, Sep 6

8:00 a.m.

4:30 p.m.

Sunday, Sep 7

8:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

6:30 p.m.

Roberta Altamirano

(By: Luis Gaerlan)

Father Edward Reese, SJ

(By: Fr. Schunk)

Richard Faziola

(By: Hilda Faziola)

Emiliano Mendiola

(By: Josephine Mendiola)

Basilio Sabisor Jr

(By: Carlota & Family)

Freddy Abraham

(By: Carolyn Yiu)

Elvie Ysip, bday blessing

(By: FDS & Parish Staff)

Francisco Cagalingan,

bday blessing (By: Ding, Carol

& Family)

Helen & Vin Greely

(By: Joan Leehane)

People of the Parish

(By: Fr. Schunk)



Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary

Time *August 31st*, 2025.

You have approached Mount Zion and the city

of the living God.

— Hebrews 12:22a

TOAY'S READINGS August 31 2025

First Reading Sirach 3:17-18,20,28-29

Humble yourself and you will find favor with God

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 68:4-7,10-11 The just rejoice and exult before God.

Second Reading Hebrews 12:18-19,22-24

You have approached Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem.

Gospel Reading Luke 14:1,7-14 When you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled,

.....

the lame, and the blind.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Wednesday: Saint Gregory the Great Saint Teresa of Calcutta Friday:

Stewardship: A Way of Life Sunday Collections August 23 - 24, 2025

\$4,735.50 Sunday Collection \$1,812.95 Online Offering

Faith Formation for Children Registration

Our parish offers religious education for children in our Faith Formation Program.

or students who attend public schools or non-Catholic private schools. Children in grades 1st thru 8th meet Monday afternoons, 4:15-5:30pm, during the school year. We also prepare students to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation (8th grade).

We have now opened the online registration process for the 2025-2026 school year. As Mary Molly Mullaney is still on medical leave, please reach out to Father Schunk (fr.schunk@saintstephensf.org) in the parish office for more information and/or the online registration link.

75th Anniversary Fund

Our Goal: \$250,0000

Total received to date: \$79,399

We are looking to raise \$250K for our Anniversary Fund this year to help pay for St. Stephen Parish 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!

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.

Daniel W., Edna Amora, Cristina Young, Tresa Matthews, GeriAnne Martin, Mary MacKinny, Alex & Marie, Greg Iorio, Ana Caballero, Perry Young, Araceli Caparas, Larry & Carmelita Gallager, 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 Barbiere, Kenneth Fambrini, Marc Gutierres, Gwendolyn Walsh, Joel Rivera, Eden Finn, Jovita & Richard Thompson.

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



PASTORAL STAFF

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

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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.



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OSV Service

ST STEPHEN PARISH 2025-2026

ORGANIZATION/MINISTRY CONTACT PERSON

Nellie Hizon

Altar Servers Giovanna Hrvatin
 Altar Society Joan Leehane
 Bridge Group Virginia Stefanelli

 Eucharistic Lay Ministry Mary Molly Mullaney (Word & Eucharist)

Fifty Plus Club Helga D'Arcy Finance Council Laura Birsinger

Caritas

Front Ofc Lead Volunteer
 Grief Support
 Head Sacristan
 Liturgy Committee
 Fely Boquiren
 Clergy
 Ed Quan

Marriage Preparation Clergy

• Men's Club Patrick Kennedy

• Newman Campus Ministry Fr Michael Liliedahl

Parish Council Vicky Francisco

 Religious Education Mary Molly Mullaney (Faith Formation, RCIA, Book Club, Hospitality)

Ushers Pastor

Women's Guild
 Mandy Fesko & Jen Garlasco

