

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.

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross



September 14, 2025



September 14, 2025

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

This weekend the Church celebrates the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, which is always celebrated on September 14 and this year, falls on a Sunday. This feast day commemorates two important events in the life of the Church. First is the discovery of the True Cross (the cross on which Jesus Christ was crucified) in 326 by Saint Helen, the mother of the Holy Roman Emperor Constantine. And second, the dedication of the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem in 335, the church built by the Constantine over Calvary and the empty tomb of Jesus Christ.

To mark important mysteries and events in the life of our faith, the Church celebrates not just once, but multiple times. Every Sunday during the year, for example, is a celebration of Easter, the Day of the Resurrection. We celebrate the institution of the Eucharist not only on Holy Thursday, but also on the Solemnity of the Body of Blood of Christ (*Corpus Christi*). We may associate today's celebration of the Holy Cross with Good Friday, when we recall the Passion and Death of Jesus. It is a reminder that the Cross is part of our lives and not something we can escape. It is also the great sign of the love of God for us, who in his humanity emptied himself so that might redeem the world through his suffering and death.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed both to the 75th Anniversary Fund and the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal. To date, we have collected \$87,913 from 101 households for the 75th Anniversary Fund and \$60,423 from 137 households for the AAA. We still have \$20,493 to go to reach our goal for the AAA so if you have not yet contributed, please consider participating in the AAA this year.

As I wrote last week, we are beginning to sell tickets for the 75th Anniversary luncheon which will take place after the 10:30 AM Mass on October 19. You may purchase tickets online through the event registration page or via check/cash and use the special registration envelopes that we are providing. We are also continuing to look for volunteers for the event and so if you would like to volunteer, please reach out to memories@saintstephensf.org or leave a message in the parish office with Father Schunk and he will pass along your name to the coordinators.

Father Schunk

Gospel Reading: John 3:13–17

As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, so that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

Background on today's Gospel Reading

In John's Gospel, Jesus' death on the cross as well as his resurrection and return to the Father are one event. For him, the cross is a sign of exaltation. The serpent that Moses lifted up in the desert to offer healing to those injured by snake bites prefigures Jesus' being lifted up on the cross, bringing salvation.

The eternal life God offers through Jesus is not life without end but life lived in the unending presence of God. That is why it can begin now in this life. The world to which God sends the Son is not a place but those people who are at odds with Jesus and God. Jesus is sent to this world as a gift. Only believers accept the gift.

Finally, God's judgment on the world is not a future cosmic event but a present reality. God sent the Son out of love for the world. However, the world has to decide to accept him. Those who accept him have eternal life at the moment of the decision. Those who reject him don't.



THE WAY

It's hard to train a child in a way the parents don't go themselves.

— Anonymous

St. Stephen School Now Accepting Applications!

St. Stephen School is accepting applications for the August 2026-2027 Kindergarten Class. Please call the school office at **(415) 664-8331**, if you are interested in obtaining an application and scheduling a school tour. Children must be 5 years old by September 1, 2026 and be currently enrolled in a five day Pre-K or Kindergarten Program.

We welcome all applicants in current K-5 especially our Faith Formation Families.

St. Stephen School, mindful of its mission to be witness to the love of Christ for all, admits students of any race, color, and national and/or ethnic origins to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded to or made available to students at this school. St. Stephen School does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, and national educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

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).

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Monday, Sep 15

8:00 a.m. † **Delfin Guevara, Jr**
(By: Hernandez Family)

Tuesday, Sep 16

8:00 a.m. **Fr. Gerard Gormley, Sp. Int**
(By: A friend)

Wednesday, Sep 17

8:00 a.m. **Priest's Intention**

Thursday, Sep 18

8:00 a.m. † **Jose Gavina Guillermo**
(By: Amanda Carrillo)

Friday, Sep 19

8:00 a.m. † **Jerry & Julia Fitzgerald**
(By: Mary Fitzgerald)

Saturday, Sep 20

8:00 a.m. † **Carlota Plondaya**
(By: Gulmohar, Aisa & Kiara)

4:30 p.m. † **Dan & Alice Leehane**
(By: Joan & Dan Leehane)

Sunday, Sep 21

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

10:30 a.m. **Bessie Agoo, Sp Int**
(By: Family)

6:30 p.m. † **Katherine Herber**
(By: Dorothy Over)

Faith Formation at St. Stephen Parish

Our parish offers religious education for children in our Faith Formation Program for students who attend public schools or non-Catholic private schools.

Children in grades 1st thru 8th meet Monday afternoons from 4:15 - 5:30 pm. 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. If you have any questions, please reach out to Mary Molly at Faithformation@saintstephensf.org.

Contact Mary Molly Mullaney in the office for more information and/or the online registration link during the school year.



Faith Formation is now looking for new teachers to join our team. If you are interested in spreading the faith to the next generation, please contact Mary Molly in the email provided above!

Stewardship: A Way of Life

Sunday Collections September 6 – 7, 2025

| | |
|------------|-----------------------------------|
| \$5,694.35 | Sunday Collection |
| \$2054.20 | Online Offering |
| \$87,913 | 75 th Anniversary Fund |
| \$627.00 | Arch. For Military |

St. Stephen 75th Anniversary Celebration

October 19, 2025

Mass 10:30 AM

Luncheon to Follow the Mass in
Donworth Hall

Purchase Tickets for Luncheon

<https://www.osvhub.com/saintstephens/forms/75th-anniversary-bbq>

Adults: \$35 Children: \$15

Mass Schedule for Weekend

Saturday 4:30 PM Mass

Sunday 10:30 AM Mass



No 8:00 AM or 6:30 PM on
Sunday, 10/19.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: **Saint Catherine of Genoa, Our Lady of Sorrows**

Tuesday: **Saints Cornelius and Cyprian**

Wednesday: **Saint Robert Bellarmine**

Friday: **Saint Januarius**

Saturday: **Saints Andrew Kim Taegon, Paul Chong Hasang, and Companions**

Sunday: **Saint Matthew**

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 Farralles, 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 Gutierrez, 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

Fr.Schunk@SaintStephenSF.org

Rev. Michael Liliedahl
Chaplain, SFSU Newman Center
Fr.Michael@SaintStephenSF.org

Rev. Mr. Manuel "Olet" Abad
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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 disci-
ples,
bringing your love to the world.

We ask all this through Christ our Lord.



ST STEPHEN PARISH 2025-2026

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 | Patrick Kennedy |
| • Newman Campus Ministry | Fr Michael Liliedahl |
| • Parish Council | Vicky Francisco |
| • Religious Education (Faith Formation, RCIA, Book Club, Hospitality) | Mary Molly Mullaney |
| • Ushers | Pastor |
| • Women's Guild | Mandy Fesko & Jen Garlasco |



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With our new
OSV Service*

*your
child
belongs*

...in this parish
...in this church
...in this community
...in the Body of Christ
...in the Catholic Faith
...in the Kingdom of God
...in Religious Education



Join us on Monday, October 6, 2025,
for our monthly meeting of the 50+
Club. Snacks will be served and Bingo
and Bridge will be played. Currently,
looking for new Bridge Players!