

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

Advent



December 7, 2025

John the Baptist appeared,
preaching in the desert of Judea and saying,
“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”

MATTHEW 3:1

...It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said: *A voice of one crying out in the desert, Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.*

John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey.

At that time Jerusalem, all Judea, and the whole region around the Jordan were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.

When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God can raise up children to Abraham from these stones. Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees.

‘Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand. He will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into his barn, ...’



December 7, 2025

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Thank you to all of you who have brought in items for the Advent Giving Tree. Please note the return deadline for the gift cards for De Marillac Academy is next Sunday because they need them to distribute before the students depart on Christmas break. The other items we are collecting for Catholic Charities-CYO have a few more days until they are due. As always, please check the tags for details. You may return your gifts to the parish office or the gift bin in front of the statue of Blessed Mother in the church.

Also, thank you for your generosity to our Thanksgiving Day collection for the Saint Anthony Foundation. Your generosity on a day when we give thanks to God is a blessing for those most in need in our community and we are honored to support this charitable work.

Next Sunday, the Saint Stephen's Men's Club is holding their annual pancake breakfast in Donworth Hall following the 10:30 AM Mass. All are invited to join the fun and food.

Monday, December 8, is the celebration of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy Day of Obligation. We will have two Masses that day at 8:00 AM and 6:30 PM. This year we are having music at the 6:30 PM Mass. In the past, people have attended the school Mass but due to our efforts to enhance safety protocols in light of the sad circumstances of violence in society, we are not opening up the Mass to the public.

In your envelope packet, you will notice we have an offering for Christmas Flowers. Like on All Souls Day, if you wish you may write in the names of our loved ones which we will place on our altar for our Christmas Masses. There are also envelopes in the vestibule for you to use. This weekend we are distributing the 2026 calendars. Please only take one per household. The new calendars mean we are ready for the new year!

Father Schunk

Second Sunday of Advent, Today's Readings

700 years before Christ, Isaiah described in beautiful poetry a world of peace and justice, and he describes it the only way he knew how to describe it. It will be ruled by a king, a shoot from the stump of Jesse, endowed with the gifts of the Spirit of God. Perhaps you noticed in today's first reading the mention of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit that we learned about in catechism: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord. I don't know if we will ever see a world like Isaiah describes. Isaiah's poetic description would require a complete transformation of nature. In light of further revelation given to us since Isaiah's time, and especially in light of what Jesus has revealed to us, it is easy to envision heaven as Isaiah describes it in today's reading. In this sense, Isaiah's message continues to be a message of hope. No matter how bad things may become, God has plans of great happiness for those who faithfully follow the leadership of this ideal king from the root of Jesse.

Advent is a time of hope, but it is also a time of preparation for the blessings for which we hope. This is where John the Baptist comes in. His job was to prepare people for the come of God's kingdom. If we want to prepare ourselves, we have to listen to John. We can't just take it for granted that getting to heaven is an entitlement any more than the Jews could presume they had it made because they were Jews. John told them, "do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father.'" John said God is looking for good fruits. Several times in Scripture, Jesus clarified what is meant by "good fruits." We can summarize what good fruits means by saying it means loving God above all things and loving our neighbor as ourselves, but there's a lot that's meant by "love."

John the Baptist is no long with us, Herod Antipas saw to that. The Church now takes up the cry of John during the Season of Advent and calls us to "prepare the way of the Lord . . ." There are lots of preparations that go on during this time of the year, preparations for gatherings with friends and family, preparations for gifts giving, preparations for parties, etc. Let's not forget that most important preparations of all, to prepare our heart to receive our Lord and Savior with greater faith and devotion than ever this Christmas. Amen.

Simbang Gabi at St. Stephen Church in San Francisco, CA. Simbang Gabi began in San Francisco in 1996. is now held in approximately 45 parishes in the Archdiocese of San Francisco, with an annual Simbang Gabi Commissioning rites at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption. Historical accounts show that **Simbang Gabi novena Masses, introduced in the early 1600**, came from the original novena Masses in preparation for Christmas in honor of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, that have existed for hundreds of years in Spain. ***Please join us for Mass at 6:00 am for the following dates:***



Tue. Dec. 16 Rev. Ian Quito (St. Gabriel)
Wed. Dec. 17 Rev. Armando Gutierrez (St. Finn Barr)
Thu. Dec. 18 Rev. Roland De la Rosa (St. Bruno)
Fri. Dec. 19 Rev. Charles Puthota (St. Elizabeth)
Sat. Dec. 20 Rev. Joyson Thomas, (Our Lady of Angels)

Sun. Dec. 21 Rev. David Schunk (St. Stephen)
Mon. Dec. 22 Rev. Jose Shaji (St. Emydius)
Tue. Dec. 23 Rev. Emmanuel Adams (St. Finn Barr)
Wed. Dec. 24 Rev. David Schunk (St. Stephen)

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Monday, Dec 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception

8:00 a.m. † **Robert J. Onken**
(By: Helga D'Arcy)
People of the Parish

Tuesday, Dec 9

8:00 a.m. † **Ellen Vella**
(By: Fely Boquiren)

Wednesday Dec 10

8:00 a.m. † **Tammy Yared**
(By: Dorothy Over)
Edna Rodas
(By: Rodas Family) Sp. Int

Thursday, Dec 11

8:00 a.m. † **Consolacion Salera**
(By: Becky Parini)

Friday, Dec 12

8:00 a.m. † **Consolacion Salera**
(By: Becky Parini)

Saturday, Dec 13

8:00 a.m. † **Nancy Legg**
(By: Helga D'Arcy)

4:30 p.m. † **Frank Duffy**
(By: Monica Duffy)

Sunday, Dec 14

8:00 a.m. † **People of the Parish**
Aikan Kyle & Melody,
(By: Pa, Ma & Robert) Sp. Int
10:30 a.m. † **John C. Farrell**
(By: Malvina Farrell)

Advent Prayer

“For you I wait all day long” (Ps 25:5)

Dear Lord, please flood me with your peace
so that when I'm surrounded
by the busyness of the Christmas season,
I can remain ready to meet you.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — He shall bring justice for the afflicted;
the earth shall overflow with the knowledge of the
LORD (*Isaiah 11:1-10*).

Psalms — Peace and justice will come in the day of the
Lord (*Psalms 72*).

Second Reading — Glorify God by living in harmony
with one another, welcoming each other as Christ
welcomed you (*Romans 15:4-9*).

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: **Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day**
Monday: **Feast of the Immaculate Conception**
Tuesday: **St. Juan Diego, Cuauhtlatoatzin**
Wednesday: **Our Lady of Loreto**
Thursday: **St. Damasus 1, Pope**
Friday: **Our Lady of Guadalupe**
Saturday: **St. Lucy**

Stewardship: A Way of Life **Sunday Collections November 29 – 30, 2025**

\$4,479.00 Sunday Offertory
\$1,661.66 Online Giving
\$1,034.00 Thanksgiving Collection for
St. Anthony's

75th Anniversary Fund

Our Goal: \$250,000

Total received to date: \$103,816

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.

No gift is too small as we hope everyone in the parish
will participate to strengthen Saint Stephen's for another
75 years!

*All Households who contributed \$1,000 or more will get
to engrave a leaf on our beautiful donation tree, a lasting
mark of your generosity and kindness. Keep an eye out
for inscription forms coming your way in mid-December.*

***There is still time to donate and receive a leaf for you or
a loved one!***



*As a special thank you, the
Households who donated
\$10,000 or more this year will
be treated to a dinner personal-
ly prepared by our priests.*

Sick Friends & Family

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.

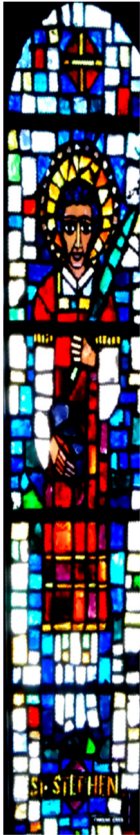
**Sean Chan, Byron Petty, Genevieve Dy, Glenda Miller,
Daniel W., Tresa Matthews, GeriAnne Martin,
Mary MacKinny, Alex & Marie, Greg Iorio, Ana
Caballero, Perry Young, Araceli Caparas, Larry &
Carmelita Gallagher, George Farralles, Al Vicente Jr,
Antoinette Mishirsky, Tony Devincenzi, Julie Burton,
Nestor & Nelson Plondaya, Marie Bachand,
Michelle Vicente, Michelle Weeks, Franz Tittiger,
Robert Liam, Larry Barbieri, Kenneth Fambrini,
Marc Gutierrez, Gwendolyn Walsh, Joel Rivera,
Eden Finn, Jovita & Richard Thompson.**

San Francisco Turkey Drive

The SF Turkey Drive returns for the holiday season to
support families, seniors, and individuals facing food
insecurity in San Francisco. Donations will be collected
at the parking lot across from:

St. Emydius Church (350 De Montfort Ave, SF)
Saturday, December 20 – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

We are collecting frozen turkeys, fresh vegetables,
breakfast non-perishable items (peanut butter, jam,
oatmeal), and monetary donations.



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
Permanent Deacon

Sharon McCarthy Allen
Principal

office@sfststephenschool.org

Shay Ingelfinger
Event Center Coordinator
DonworthEvents@SaintStephenSF.org

Mary Molly Mullaney
Faith Formation
FaithFormation@SaintStephenSF.org

Anthony A. Renteria
Athletics Director
ststephenathleticssf@gmail.com

Ed Prete
Bulletin Editor
e.prete@SaintStephenSF.org

Adent Giving Tree *A Tradition of Compassion*

Once again, St. Stephen Parish is partnering with charitable organizations to share the spirit of Christmas with people in need. We invite you to take part in this lovely tradition by choosing one or more of the gift tags from the Giving Tree bulletin board in the church vestibule. Purchase the gift or gift card as listed, and return wrapped gift to church or the parish office. Together we can spread the joy of Christmas to our less fortunate brothers and sisters.

This year, we are please to support various programs of Catholic Charities and the 8th Graders of De Marillac Academy, a small Catholic school in the Tenderloin District.

Due Dates:

Dec, 12 - Gift cards for De Marillac Academy

Dec, 19 - All other gift (toys for children; hats or warm socks for adults; blankets; toiletries)

Thank you for your open-hearted generosity and spreading joy, hope, and the spirit of Christmas to those in need this holiday season.



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.

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

Contact Shay at 415.681.2444 x2
or email:

DonworthEvents@SaintStephenSF.org



YOU ARE INVITED TO...

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

ST. STEPHEN SCHOOL
DONWORTH HALL

ADULTS \$35
CHILDREN \$10

QUESTIONS?
CONTACT: ST. STEPHEN'S
MEN'S CLUB

STSTEPHENMEN@GMAIL.COM

SUNDAY

14

DECEMBER
AT 11:30 AM

