

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.

FIFTH Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 8 2026



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**"Your light must shine before others,
that they may see your good deeds
and glorify your heavenly Father."**

Matthew 5:16



February 8, 2026

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

If you are like me, around this time of year we begin to receive all types of notices and information related to preparing for taxes. As we say, taxes and death are the only certainties in this life, and as Catholics, we prepare for death all year long when we celebrate the Eucharist! This past week, our parish mailed the 2025 contribution summaries for the households of our parish for those who donated \$250 or more during 2025. Our database system with Our Sunday Visitor (OSV) is also able to email the statements and so we tried to use that feature this past week. Since this is the first time using the feature, we will have to see how that process goes. As you can imagine, there must be an email address for a household to receive an email so if you did not receive something, then likely we do not have an email address for you.

You may also access your donation statement online via our donation portal. Log into our online giving portal: <https://www.osvhub.com/saintstephensf/giving/funds> and then select the *Account* menu at the top of the page. You will be able to scroll down and download last year's statement.

As always, if you desire a more detailed statement or believe there are errors, please contact me in the parish office and we will take a look at your record.

Two notes about donation records. First, our practice, like many parishes, is to record donations on the level of households/family. So if both spouses contribute separately, their donations will be recorded in a single total. Second, some of our parishioners designate our parish for contributions from a charitable trust or a required minimum distribution (RMD) from their IRA. We have begun to record those donations in such a way that they will not appear on someone's contribution summary because the person has already received the tax benefit and does not receive it again as a charitable donation. At least that is what I was told! If there are any tax lawyers or accountants out there who know differently, let me know. Either way, we are grateful for the tremendous generosity of all our parishioners.

Speaking of generosity, you have likely noticed the new concrete at the entrance to the church. We are grateful to O'Donoghue Construction, Inc. for their tremendous donation of time, labor, and concrete to smooth the path and make the entrance to the church safer for all of us this past week. Thank you! It is amazing to see the contributions people may make with their various talents and gifts.

I scheduled my annual retreat for this coming week at the Abbey of Our Lady of New Clairvaux in Vina, California. Say a prayer for me as I will pray for all of you.

Father Schunk



***St. Stephen's Men's Club presents the Annual
St. Patrick's Day Dinner***

**Join us Saturday, March 7th in Donworth Hall for a
corned beef dinner with all the fixins'.**

**We will have the Bagpipes,
Murphy Irish Dancers
and a DJ.**

Tickets: \$30 for adults \$10 for kids

**Payment can be a check made payable to:
St. Stephen Men's Club
or via PayPal @ststephenmensclub**

Volunteer opportunity: The Healing WELL is looking for 1-2 volunteers to help prepare lunch for about 15 people on Fridays. The shift is from 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM. Please reach out Kathy Curran, the Director of The Healing WELL for more info. (415) 500-2099 Email: kcurran@healingwellsf.org www.healingwellsf.org 374 Ellis St., San Francisco, CA 94102

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Monday, Feb 9

8:00 a.m.

† **Mary Kiac**
(By: Shirley Dee)

Tuesday, Feb 10

8:00 a.m.

† **Bill Frost**
(By: Liam & Mary Frost)

Wednesday, Feb 11

8:00 a.m.

Sp. Int. **Maria Amora**
(By: Ninna Amora)

Thursday, Feb 12

8:00 a.m.

† **Teresa Ho**
(By: Viet & Connie (Mary) Ho)

Friday, Feb 13

8:00 a.m.

† **Richard Faziola**
(By: Hilda Faziola)

Saturday, Feb 14

8:00 a.m.

† **Mary Phan**
(By: Viet & Connie (Mary) Ho)

4:30 p.m.

† **Eileen Kyne**
(By: Smith Family)

Sunday, Feb 15

8:00 a.m.

† **Maggie McDonald**
(By: Fely Boquieren)

10:30 a.m.

† **Jack Carpentier**
(By: Gayle Carpentier)

6:30 p.m.

People of the Parish

Stewardship: A Way of Life

Sunday Collections — February 1, 2026

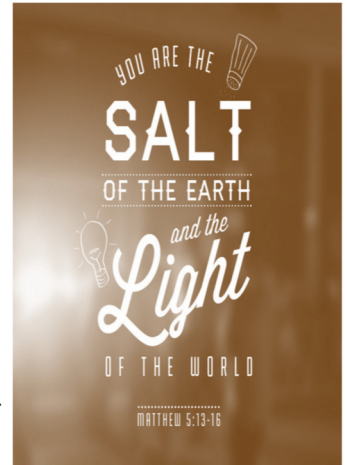
\$5,986.05 Sunday Offertory

\$1,379.61 Online Giving

Background on the Gospel Reading

Following upon the teaching of the Beatitudes, Jesus uses the now familiar metaphors of salt and light to describe the life of discipleship. We take salt and light for granted in our society, but these commodities were more precious in ancient cultures. Just as now, salt was used in Jesus' time for flavoring, as a preservative, and as a healing agent. Similarly, the widespread use of electricity in the modern world makes us less aware of the value and importance of light in our lives.

Still, our familiarity with this passage from Matthew's Gospel speaks well to the abiding power of the imagery that Jesus presented. Jesus' call to be salt for the earth and light for the world powerfully states our mission as Church and as Christians. Our commitment to social justice flows from the exhortation that Jesus gives us in today's Gospel. Some of the activities that this commitment leads us to are given more concrete expression as the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. When we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, console those who mourn, and so on, we show ourselves to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. When we do these things with the community of faith, the Church, we are indeed acting as "a city set on a mountain" that cannot be hidden!



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
"Light shines thru the darkness for the upright."

Pslam 112:4

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading *Isaiah 58:7-10*

In the work of justice, light shall break through darkness.

Responsorial Psalm *Psalms 112:4-9*

The just person will be a light in the darkness.

Second Reading *1 Corinthians 2:1-5*

Paul shows that he came to Corinth preaching Christ crucified.

Gospel Reading *Matthew 5:13-16*

Jesus teaches that his disciples are to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday, 2/9 **St. Miguel Febres Cordero**

Tuesday, 2/10 **St Scolastica**

Wednesday, 2/11 **Our Lady of Lourdes**

Thursday, 2/12 **St Benedict**

Friday, 2/13 **St Catherine dei Ricci**

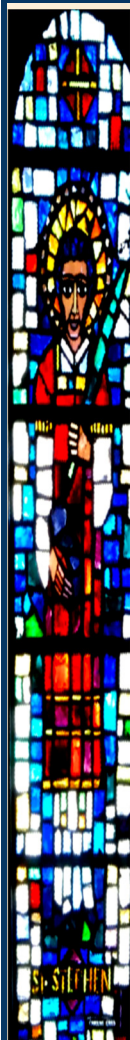
Saturday 2/14 **Sts Cyril, Methodius**

Sunday, 2/15 **St Claude La Columbiere**

Sick Family & Friends

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 Farrales, Al Vicente Jr, Antoinette Mishirsky, Tony Devincenzi, Julie Burton, Nestor & Nelson Plondaya, Marie Bachand, Michelle Vicente, Michelle Weeks, Franz Tittiger, Robert Liam, Larry Barbiere, Kenneth Fambrini, Marc Gutierrez, Gwendolyn Walsh, Joel Rivera, Eden Finn, Jovita & Richard Thompson.



PASTORAL STAFF

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Wedding Anniversary Mass

Saturday, Feb. 21, 2026

Time: 10:00 am

Contact: Ed Hopfner
415-614-5547

Email: HopfnerE@SFArchdiocese.org

All sacramentally married couples in the archdiocese are invited to a Mass celebrated by Archbishop Cordileone, followed by a light reception.

Couples celebrating "five-year anniversaries" (5, 10, 15, 20...) will receive special recognition. Donation requested is \$20/couple.

Registration
information:
[www.sfarch.org/
anniversarymass](http://www.sfarch.org/anniversarymass)



We congratulate the students who were sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit at Confirmation on Friday, February, 6, administered by Very Rev. Stephen Howell:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ♦ Declan Christopher Adams | ♦ Christopher Stephen McElroy |
| ♦ Michael Stephen Blanco | ♦ Jack Patrick McElroy |
| ♦ Isabella Joan Branch | ♦ Leo Stephen McGarry |
| ♦ Siena Catherine Champagne | ♦ Caitlin Brigid McGovern |
| ♦ Cara Gianna Conlon | ♦ Kelvin Joseph Ngo |
| ♦ Lyla Cecilia Delgado | ♦ Katie Therese O'Sullivan |
| ♦ Paloma Guadalupe Dyer Ramirez | ♦ Amari Michael Radoc Manrique |
| ♦ Shea Lydia Freeman | ♦ Milo Oscar Cierra Cruz |
| ♦ Josephine Elizabeth Gille | ♦ Sophia Teresa Sari |
| ♦ Isaiah Ignatius Hermitano | ♦ Nicholas Nicholas Sequeira |
| ♦ Laith George Hishmeh | ♦ Mary James Stecher |
| ♦ Enzo Pier Giorgio Hrvatin | ♦ Alessandra Jade Kateri Tan |
| ♦ Chase Francis Kilroy | ♦ Anabelle Agatha Taylor |
| ♦ Adam Sebastian Lau | ♦ Quirena Sophia Dymphna Wong |
| ♦ Luke Patrick Madden | ♦ Christopher Thomas Zhao |

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

A story is told of a church that was destroyed during the 1995 Rwandan genocide. As the parish sought to rebuild itself, it began by rebuilding the church, which once stood at the heart of the community. Unable to provide electricity, however, and with a residual fear of further violence, the scattered community would wait until dark to gather for Sunday Mass. Each week, with the ringing of a bell, a little miracle would happen.

As the people made their way to the shell of the church, they brought with them their lamps, using them to light the way and to light their parish church. When finished, they would return home the same way, taking with them their lamps. For anyone observing this, it was impossible not to see the connection between this miraculous event and today's Gospel. For this broken and grieving community, it was a sign of God's continuing presence in the life of their community, a sign that life was returning to normal – that God's light was with them and in them. The only time that little church was lit up was when people were present. That was when they became truly Church!

