

# St. 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.

## THIRD SUNDAY OF

# Easter

April 14, 2024



Copyright © J.S. Paluch Co. Inc. • Photos: © PD-Wikimedia, Joseph von Führich: Der Gang nach Emmaus  
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970, CCD.

The two disciples recounted what had taken place on the way,  
and how Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of bread.

—Luke 24:35



## Third Sunday of Easter

**First Reading** Acts 3:13-15, 17-19 **Psalm** Psalm 4 **Second Reading 1** John 2:1-5a **Gospel** Luke 24:35-48.

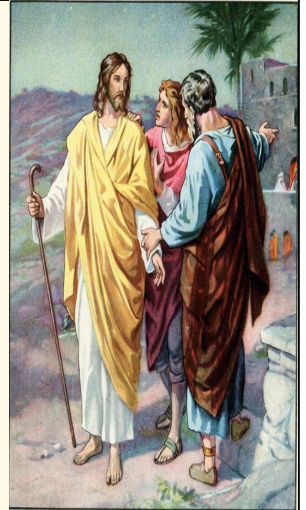
Today's Gospel follows the encounter the two disciples had with the risen Jesus on the road to Emmaus, where they had recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread. Now, these same two disciples have returned to Jerusalem, to the Upper Room where the Last Supper took place. All of the Apostles are hidden there, staying out of sight for fear that those who killed Jesus will soon be coming for them.

Jesus appears to them in that room and offers the peace that he alone can give. He reassures them they are seeing victory, not defeat – that he is truly risen. He is not a ghost and they are not hallucinating. He eats with them, and then gives them a detailed recounting of how prophecies from the Hebrew Scriptures have all been fulfilled by his passion. The disciples' mission will be to go and tell others the very same truth – God's plan of salvation did not take a detour at Calvary; instead it was the defining moment of victory.

Jesus calls them all *witnesses of these things*, a point echoed by Saint Peter in the Book of Acts. Peter has indeed become a witness. Before the Holy Spirit came upon him in wind and fire, he, like the others, hid himself from the public eye. Now – his fears replaced by faith in the Resurrection – Peter stands publicly as the rock of Christ's Church, challenging his listeners to repent, and inviting them to be baptized and share in Christ's victory.

Then and now, the resurrection of Jesus is disbelieved by some, and ignored by many. However, for those who have faith in the Lord and lean on the cross of Jesus, the Resurrection becomes an anchor that preserves our hope, even, and especially, during the darkest days of our lives. In the sacraments, Jesus takes our fears away – the same way he did on the road to Emmaus and in the Upper Room. Like his disciples, we are then called to go and free others from their fears, by telling them the Good News that Christ has conquered death.

Thanks for being part of our worshipping community and may your Easter journey continue to be spiritually rewarding.



### LITURGY AND LIFE

- Do you see God as your security?
- How can keeping the Commandments be a way of knowing God better?
- How does our faith community show that we are witnesses of what Christ had done?

### Additional “thoughts” from Today’s Scripture

We need to relive the "Upper Room Experience" in the Holy Mass: The same Jesus who, in the Upper Room, prepared his disciples for their preaching and witnessing mission, is present with us in the Eucharistic celebration. He invites us to share in the "Liturgy of the Word" and in "The Liturgy of Eucharist." In the first part of the Mass, Jesus speaks to us through the "Word of God." In the second part, He becomes our spiritual food and drink. Thus, today's Gospel scene is repeated every Sunday on our parish altars. Like the early disciples, we come together to repent of our sins, express our thanks for the blessings we have received, listen to God's words and offer ourselves to God on the altar along with our gifts of bread and wine. We also share in the spiritual food Jesus supplies, and we are sent to share his message with the entire world.

Jesus needs us as witnesses to continue his mission. Witnessing to Jesus is testifying by our lives that the power of the Risen Jesus has touched us and transformed us in the most remarkable way imaginable. Witnessing to Jesus is letting Jesus speak through us to other people. Jesus needs Spirit-filled followers to be his eyes, ears, hands and feet so that we may bear witness to his love, mercy and forgiveness by exercising these gifts in our compassionate loving service of all our brothers and sisters. The Church desperately needs dedicated witnesses: priests, deacons, Brothers, Sisters, parents, teachers, doctors, and nurses – all of us. The essence of bearing witness is to testify by our lives that the power of the risen Jesus has touched and transformed us. In other words, Jesus is to speak to other people through us. In Calcutta, a dying old woman with her head in the lap of St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa), looked at her for a long time, and, in a feeble voice, asked: "Are you the God Jesus who loves the poor and the sick?"

Our daily lives need to become the means of experiencing and sharing the risen Lord with others. Just as the disciples experienced their risen Lord in their community, let us learn to recognize the presence of Jesus in our own homes, social service centers, nursing facilities, workplaces, hospitals, and schools. These are also the places where we have the opportunity to convey our peace and joy to others.

The Upper Room



# Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



**Monday, Apr 15**

8:00 a.m.

† **Jose Pangilinan**  
(By: Angelita Pangilinan)

**Tuesday, Apr 16**

8:00 a.m.

**Tony & Teresa Sp. Int.**  
(By: Teresa Devincenzi)

**Wednesday, Apr 17**

8:00 a.m.

**Aikan Kyle Sp. Int**  
(By: Papa & Mama)

**Thursday, Apr 18**

8:00 a.m.

**Moises Bautista Sp. Int.**  
(By: Charlotte Bautista)

**Friday, Apr 19**

8:00 a.m.

† **Jose Pangilinan**  
(By: Angelita Pangilinan)

**Saturday, Apr 20**

8:00 a.m.

† **Editha C. Teves**  
(By: Emma Sagala)

4:30 p.m.

† **Denis O'Connor**  
(By: Rose O'Connor)

**Sunday, Apr 21**

8:00 a.m.

**St Stephen Parishioners**  
(By: Fr. Michael)

10:30 a.m.

† **Paul McGloin**  
(By: Lupita Chase)

6:30 p.m.

**Rev. Dennis Recio Sp. Int.**  
(By: Alaina Kyra & Siblings )



**May he rest in peace**  
*Frank J. Glynn*

**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — The God of our fathers has glorified his servant Jesus (*Acts 3:13-15, 17-19*).

**Psalm** — Lord, let your face shine on us (*Psalm 4*).

**Second Reading** — The way we may be sure that we know Jesus is to keep his commandments (*1 John 2:1-5a*).


**Gospel** — Jesus stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you" (*Luke 24:35-48*).

**Saints and Special Observances**

Sunday: **Third Sunday of Easter**  
Monday: **Income Tax Day**  
Tuesday: **St. Bernadette**  
Saturday: **St. Anselm**

**Our 20,000 sq. ft. Parish Event Center Donworth Hall is available to Rent**  
For info, call Shay at 415 681-2444 x7

You're All Invited!  
**HOLY HOUR of EUCHARISTIC DEVOTION**  
Exposition, Adoration and Benediction  
(Weekdays, right after the 8am Mass)  
**Mondays through Fridays, 8:30 a.m. - 9:30**



Join the SFSU Newman Club for **Newman Nights** every Thursday from 6-8 pm. We will meet for Mass in the church and will move to the rectory for fellowship after. Every Sunday 6:30 p.m. Student Mass, followed by **FREE Sunday Supper** at 7:30 p.m. *All SFSU and surrounding college students and college-age are welcome!* Contact Victoria with any questions!  
**victoria.connor@focus.org**



**Interested in becoming Catholic?**



If you, or someone you know, may be interested in the Catholic Faith, or have been Baptized but never finished receiving the Sacraments of First Communion or Confirmation, you are encouraged to contact Mary Molly in the parish office (415) 681-244 x4 or email: [FaithFomation@SaintStephenSF.org](mailto:FaithFomation@SaintStephenSF.org)  
Also, reach out to learn more about what our parish has to offer for adult faith formation.

**Sick Relatives & 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.

**George Farrales, Perry Young, Antoinette Mishirsky, Maggie Harbison, Danilo Dacasin, Greg Lorio, Adelle Caunan, Debbie Nunes, Tony Devincenzi, Julie Burton, Nestor & Nelson Plondaya, Marie Bachand, Francis Yiu, Edna Amora, Rodney Clark, Michelle Vicente, Michelle Weeks, Franz Tittiger, Carlota Plondaya, Robert Liam, Eden Finn, Edileide Jose Barbosa, Kenneth Fambrini, Larry Barbieri, Carol Dominguez, Marc Gutierrez, Catherine Scosseria, Gwendolyn Walsh, Joel Rivera, Jovita & Richard Thompson.**  
*Please call the office to add or remove names of people that we should pray for this month.*

**TEXT to GIVE**  
**Text "SAINTSTEPHENSF" to 73256 to give using your mobile device.**



## Saint Bernadette Soubirous, 1844-1879

*Feast Day April 16*

Maybe Saint Bernadette's story will help you out. She was just a young girl who saw something amazing and told the truth about it. Hardly anyone believed her at first, and people even made life difficult for her and her family because of what she said she saw. But Bernadette never backed down, and the truth she told has helped millions of people, even people who live today. Bernadette's life wasn't easy to begin with. She and her family lived in terrible poverty in a village in France called Lourdes. By the time she was 14, Bernadette had been sick so often that she hadn't grown properly. She was the size of a much younger girl. She, her parents, and her younger brothers and sisters all lived in a tiny room at the back of someone else's house, a building that had actually been a prison many years before.



Bernadette's life was terribly difficult, but she wasn't a miserable girl. She had a deep, simple faith in God. She didn't mind any of the work she had to do, whether it was helping her mother cook or taking care of her younger brothers and sisters. There was, though, one thing that bothered her. She hadn't been able to attend school very often, and she didn't know how to read. Because of that, she had never learned enough about her faith to be able to receive her first Communion. Bernadette wanted to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, but her days, which were full of hard work, left little time for learning.

Like other girls, Bernadette had many friends. She spent time with them in the countryside, playing and gathering wood for their families' fireplaces and stoves. One cold February day, Bernadette was out with her sister and a friend, doing just that. They wandered along the river until they came to a spot where a large, shallow cave called a grotto had formed in the hilly bank. Bernadette's sister and friend decided to take off their shoes and cross the stream.

What happened then was very strange. The bushes that grew out of the grotto walls started blowing around as if they were being blown by a strong wind. Bernadette looked up. High above her in the grotto stood a girl. The girl was wearing a long white dress with a blue sash and a white veil. Yellow roses were at her feet, and she held a rosary. She nodded at Bernadette and then stretched out her arms.

Bernadette was afraid, of course, but it wasn't the kind of fear that made her want to run away. She stayed where she was and knelt down. She reached into the pocket of her worn-out dress, found her own rosary, and started to pray with the girl. When she finished, the girl disappeared.

Bernadette didn't know who or what she had seen. All she knew was that being there had made her feel happy and peaceful. On their way back to Lourdes, she told her sister and friend what had happened, and soon the whole village knew.

Over the next few weeks, Bernadette returned to the grotto and saw the beautiful girl several times. Each time she went, more people went with her. Although only Bernadette could see the girl in white, when the other villagers prayed with her in the grotto, they felt peaceful and happy too. Those who were sick even felt that God had healed them while they prayed.

During those moments in the grotto, the girl spoke to Bernadette only a few times. She told her that a pure, clear spring flowed under the rocks. She told her that people needed to be sorry for their sins. And near the end, the girl said one more thing: "I am the Immaculate Conception."

Bernadette had no idea what this meant. She repeated it to herself over and over on her way back to the village so she wouldn't forget the strange, long words. When she told her parish priest what the girl had said, he was quite surprised.

The priest knew that what the mysterious girl had said meant that she was Mary, Jesus' mother. The mysterious girl of the grotto had told Bernadette who she was. But it was not very common for people—especially poor little girls who couldn't read—to think of Mary as the "immaculate conception," a phrase that reminds us of how God saved Mary from sin even before she was born.

When Bernadette told people what the girl had said, it convinced many people that she hadn't made her story up and that what she'd seen really had come from God. Not everyone believed her, though. Bernadette had to tell her story over and over again, sometimes to village and church leaders who weren't very kind to her and her family.

Today, millions of people go to Lourdes every year, to the grotto where Bernadette saw Mary. They go to pray. They go to wash their sick bodies in the spring Mary told Bernadette about. They go to open their hearts to God, as Mary and Bernadette had. And just think—all of this happened because a young girl named Bernadette told the truth!



**Join the FUN!**

**The 50+ Club will meet  
Monday, May 6, 2024**

**@ Donworth Hall**

**473 Eucalyptus Drive,  
SF, CA 94132**

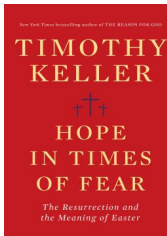
**ALL ARE INVITED!**

**Doors Open 12:30pm**

***50+ Seniors are invited to enjoy camaraderie,  
snacks, Bingo games, Bridge, etc.***

***Join us for a special 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration***

**For any questions call Helga at 415-731-8211**



### **St. Stephen Catholic Book Club**

April book: ***Hope in Times of Fear: the Resurrection and the Meaning of Easter***

by Timothy Keller

"Hope in a Time of Fear explains the meaning of Jesus's resurrection. The followers of Jesus were unprepared for the event and failed to recognize him. All of them physically saw him and yet did not spiritually truly see him. It was only when Jesus reached out and invited them to see who he truly was that their eyes were open. This book offers a new way to look at a story everyone thinks they understand."

Available from SF Public Library in book, eBook, or audiobook format.

**Book Club meets Sat., April 13, at 10:00 a.m. in the parish office. Contact Mary Molly for more information.**





The School of Pastoral Ministry presents:

## Gender Ideology: What Catholics Need to Know

*A six-week series exploring "gender ideology"  
from a Catholic perspective  
with Mary Rice Hasson, JD*

**6 Tuesday Evenings beginning April 9 through  
May 14, 7:00-8:30pm online via Zoom.**

**Register online to join this series with Mary Rice  
Hasson, JD, exploring "gender ideology" from a  
Catholic perspective. \$25 for the 6-week  
course. Scholarships available. For more info or  
to register go to:**

<https://sfarch.org/gender-ideology-course/>

### Class Topics:

Apr. 9 - The Big Question: "Who am I?" - Catholic teaching on the person v Ideology - Irreconcilable anthropologies

Apr. 16 - "Transgender Tipping Point: 10 Years Later" - Trajectory – Roots, Cultural Changes, Future Challenges – religious liberty

Apr. 23 - The LGBTQ Generation: The Influences on Youth - Vulnerabilities, Vectors/Influencers – schools, parental rights, counselors

Apr. 30 - What About "Transgender" Body Modifications? - Medical/Surgical Interventions and Catholic Teaching

May 7 - Gender, Mental Health, and Suicide: The Facts - "Gender dysphoria" and Co-morbidities; Suicide risks and Realities

May 14 - The Catholic Response: Truth and Charity - Principles – summation - Cases – business, family members, peers, experts

## Sacristans Needed for the 10:30 Mass

We are looking for sacristans to help after the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass. The tasks are pretty easy cleaning up the items used for the celebration of the Mass. Training will be provided. It should take only 15 minutes of your time once mass is over. (And it is okay to perform the tasks during or after the coffee/donut time.) Please contact the Parish office if interested. (415) 681-244 x4

### The Psalms in the Liturgy

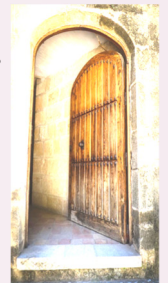
The book of Psalms is a prayer book, hymnal, and anthology of verse all rolled into one. It contains one hundred fifty ancient songs—poem-prayers that express the joys and sorrows of the Hebrew people and their longing for God. The psalms are incredibly varied in tone. Some are solemn anthems of praise that once accompanied processions of great multitudes to the temple; others record the lonely cries of a faithful soul who feels abandoned by God.

This ancient prayer book of the Hebrew people is our principal prayer book as well. The psalms are everywhere in the liturgy—in the antiphons and acclamations of the Mass, and most particularly in the responsorial psalm that follows the first reading. The psalm that is sung at Mass usually echoes the themes of the first reading, and sometimes even comments on it. *Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.*

### A CHURCH ACCESSIBLE!

Saint Stephen Church is left open Monday through Saturday from after the morning Mass until 4:00 p.m. This gives you the opportunity to stop by and make a personal/private visit with the Blessed Sacrament and to offer your prayers in a quiet, warm and comfortable atmosphere

So, when you are out for an afternoon walk or returning home from shopping or work -- feel free to stop by.



### Prayer to St. Michael



Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Keep a smile on your face, a prayer on your lips, and don't look back (something might be gaining on you). *-John Pugh*

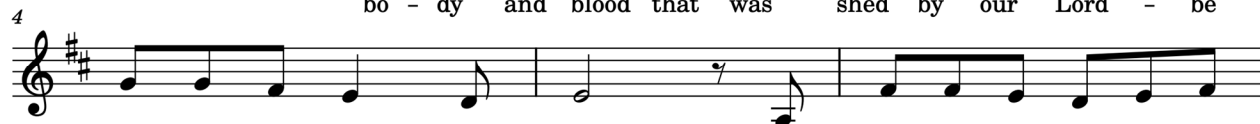
# Joyous Celebration

Fredrick Schaefer

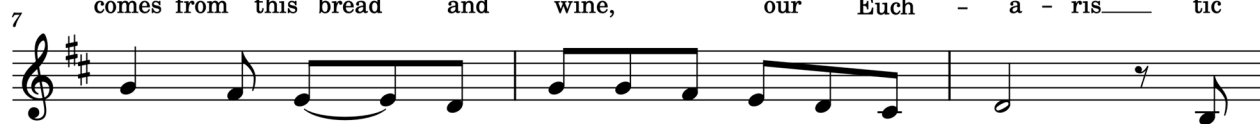
3 bar piano intro...



1.As sis - ters and bro - thers we gath - er to - ge - ther -  
bo - dy and blood that was shed by our Lord - be



- on this ho - ly day. From coun - try to coun - try a -  
comes from this bread and wine, our Euch - a - ris - tic



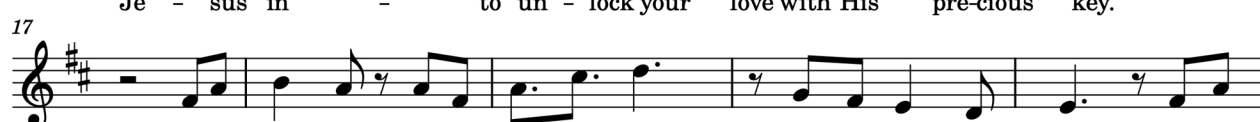
round the world - sing - ing our songs of praise. No  
cel - e - bra - tion a sac - ra - ment so di - vine. No



mat - ter our dif - fer - en - ces nar - row or braoad, we come to - ge - ther as  
mat - ter if you've live a life of sin, it's ne - ver too late so let



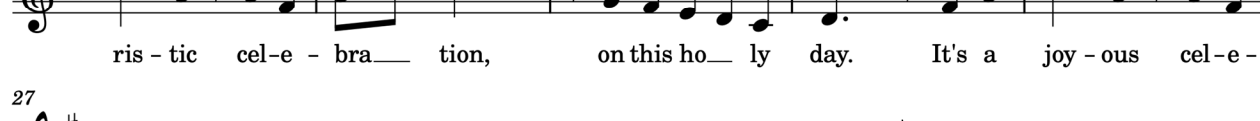
child - ren of God to cel - e - brate the sa - cred my - ster - ies.  
Je - sus in - to un - lock your love with His pre - cious key.



It's a joy - ous cel - e - bra - tion, come and join in praise. Eu - cha -



ris - tic cel - e - bra - tion, on this ho - ly day. It's a joy - ous cel - e -

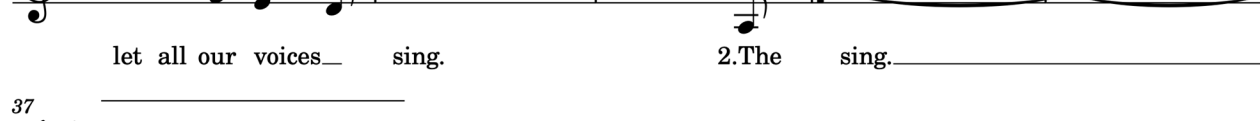
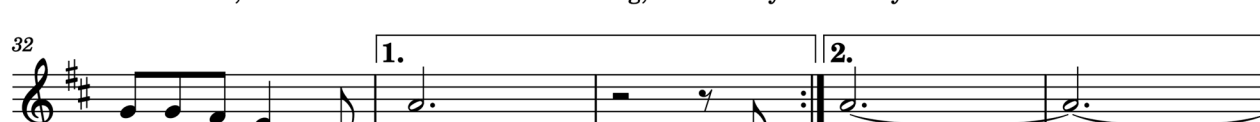


bra - tion, let the moun - tains ring, ho - ly ho - ly cel - e - bra - tion



let all our voices sing.

2.The sing.



**Today's Music** 🎵 April 14, 2024, Third Sunday of Easter

**Gathering:** Joyous Celebration (see above)

**Preparation:** Peace #538

**Communion:** In The Breaking of the Bread #355; When We Eat This Bread #351

**Sending:** Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise #191