


SAINT STEPHEN THE FIRST MARTYR ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



PARISH INFORMATION	SACRAMENTS	DEVOTIONS
<p style="text-align: center;">PARISH OFFICE</p> <p>Email stephenproto@yahoo.com Website www.sacfssp.com Phone 916-455-5114 Address 5461 44th Street Sacramento, CA 95820 Bookstore 916-223-3112</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PRIESTS</p> <p>Fr. Joshua Curtis, FSSP <i>Pastor</i> frcurtis@fssp.com</p> <p>Fr. David Franco, FSSP <i>Par. Vicar</i> fr.franco.sacramento@proton.me</p> <p>Fr. Evan Schwab, FSSP <i>Par. Vicar</i> father.schwab@gmail.com</p> <p>Fr. Evaristus Eshiwu <i>Retired</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">STAFF</p> <p>Tish Gallagher <i>Parish Secretary</i> stephenproto@yahoo.com</p> <p>Keven Smith <i>Choirmaster</i> ksmith_writer@yahoo.com</p> <p>Kelly Mantsch <i>Parish Bookkeeper</i> ststephenbusinessoffice@gmail.com</p> <p>Stella Zapata <i>Custodian & Office Asst.</i></p> <p>Francis Dugyon <i>Sacristan</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MASS SCHEDULE</p> <p>Sun 7 am, 8:30 am, 10 am, 11:30 am, 1:00 pm (Sung), 6 pm Mon - Fri 7 am, 12 pm, 6 pm Sat 7 am, 8:30 am, 12 pm Holy Day Check bulletin.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CONFESSIONS</p> <p>We have confessions every weekday, starting one half hour before the beginning of Mass. There are also limited times on Sunday for confessions.</p> <p>Sun 6:30 am & 5:30 pm Mon - Fri 6:30 am, 11:30 am, 5:30 pm Sat 6:30 am, 8 am, 11:30 am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS</p> <p>Contact the Parish Office. Baptisms should be within the first two weeks after birth; marriages generally require six months of preparation.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SICK CALLS</p> <p>Call the Parish Office to schedule a home visit for the Sacraments.</p> <p>If someone is dying, outside of office hours, dial 916-455-5114, then press 1. You will be transferred immediately to the priest-on-call.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">THE DIVINE OFFICE</p> <p>Mon - Fri Terce at 8:50 am Sext at 11:20 am Vespers at 5 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">EXPOSITION & BENEDICTION</p> <p>Thurs 1 pm - 6 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THE HOLY ROSARY</p> <p>Sun 6:30 am & 7 pm Last Sat After the 8:30 am (15 decades, offered for priests.)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP</p> <p>Tues After the 6 pm Mass</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PRAYER TO SAINT JOSEPH</p> <p>Wed After all Masses</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS</p> <p>Sun After the 1 pm Mass Thurs After all Masses</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SAINT MONICA SODALITY</p> <p>First Thurs After the 6 pm Mass</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THE SACRED HEART</p> <p>First Fri After all Masses</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FATIMA PROCESSION</p> <p>The 13th of every month from May to October. See bulletin announcements for times.</p>
STAYING CONNECTED	THE FSSP	DONATIONS
<p style="text-align: center;">PARISH ONLINE NEWSLETTER</p> <p>To receive the bulletin and important announcements online, call the Parish Office to register.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NEW PARISHIONERS</p> <p>Registration forms are available in the Parish Office or Bookstore.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Stephen the First Martyr is a personal parish of the Diocese of Sacramento. It is served by priests of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ST. BERNADETTE FUND</p> <p>Please consider giving to fellow parishioners in need. Donations can be made online or at the Parish Office.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ONLINE GIVING</p> <p>Available at the parish website. www.sacfssp.com</p>
<p>Envelopes are very helpful for our bookkeeping, unless you are giving online. Please pick them up in the Parish Office.</p>		

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

5 Jan	Sun	The Holy Name of Jesus, II 7 am Ricardo Orozco 8:30 am Doan Binh 10 am + Richard Seifert 11:30 am Giesu Vu Van Bien 1 pm <i>Pro populo</i> 6 pm Vincent Durant
6 Jan	Mon	Epiphany of the Lord, I 7 am Andres Orozco 12 pm Maria Than Dinh 6 pm Anh Ho
7 Jan	Tues	Feria, IV 7 am Maria le Tui Nguiep 12 pm Jorge Escamilla 6 pm De Pham
8 Jan	Wed	Feria, IV 7 am Cao Nguiep 12 pm + Holy Souls 6 pm + Jose Carrillo
9 Jan	Thurs	Feria, IV 7 am Nikolas Barth 12 pm Charles & Christine Watts 6 pm + James Bradley Klenim
10 Jan	Fri	Feria, IV 7 am + Rene Iway 12 pm + Holy Souls 6 pm + Edelmira Medoza-Ochoa
11 Jan	Sat	St. Hyginus, IV 7 am Tom & Katie Scarry 8:30 am + James McElroy 12 pm Mr & Mrs James Doan

PRAYER LIST

Ron Mantsch, Esther Jimenez, Daniel Huynh, Avianna Ramirez, Catherine Durant, Ed Schneider, Paula Belen, Vanessa Jimenez, Ralph Clark, Michelle DiGiovani, Mark Mitchell, Phil Carey, Judy Bennett, Jasinkas, Debbie Vilar, Dominick Damore, Judi Geldermann, Elaine Testa, Monique Rance, Nancy Tostenson, Karen Rich, Stephanie Reali-Saavedra, Theresa Reali, Don Varley, Dolly Lewis, Mary Ann Cuny, Barbara Graichen, Jim Carlson, Darryl Gallagher, Helen DiCarlo, Barbara Cogan, Jordan Aranas, JoAnn Mutterties

Please keep all the sick and homebound of the parish in your daily prayers, as well as the loved ones of fellow parishioners, and our adult catechumens and candidates.

IN MEMORIAM

Anne Marie Ternes, Bob Crocker, Kathleen Scarry, Bill Sneeringer, Marion Nicholas, Vincent DiCarlo, Estelle McKnerney, Alfred Solorio, Fr. James Buckley, Rudy Nagel, Paul Graff, Pietro Lopresti, John Hymes, Teodosio Dino, Barbara Chu, Nellie Reyes, Albert Treskon, Violet Corr, Mary Hayes, Derald Goyette, Bonnie Williams, Frank Bowa, Ramon Daley, Eileen Morrison, Richard & Louise Szabo, Cesar Oliva, Joseph Damore, Ken Taylor, Joseph Menezes, Edgardo Mercado, Barbara Jeong, Jean Haun, Rene Iway, Richard Seifert

PARISH GROUPS

Choir & Music Classes	Keven Smith <i>Youth & Adults, Sunday & Thursday</i>ksmith_writer@yahoo.com
Altar Guild & Altar Guild Minor	Mike Solton <i>Boys 7 – 18, Third Saturday</i> 916-832-2859
Troops of Saint George (Scouting)	James Campbell <i>Boys 6 – 18</i> Jcampbell@tsgtroop750.org
Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Amy Rutschow <i>Girls 14 – 18, First Saturday</i> 916-340-5782
Rosa Mystica	Sue McGrath <i>Girls 9 – 13, First Saturday</i> 916-531-3946
Little Flowers	Katie Scarry <i>Girls 5 – 8, First Saturday</i> 530-945-6947
Youth Group	Liz Hernandez <i>Ages 14 – 18, Second & Fourth Friday</i> 916-396-4062
OLSW Co-op	Inocencio Rangel <i>Ages 14 – 18, Tuesday & Thursday</i> 916-804-6359
CCM Co-op	Blanca Pimentel <i>Ages 3 – 14, Thursday</i> blancaerodria@yahoo.com
Veritas (Young Adult Group)	Kyle Watson <i>Ages 18 – 39, Third Tuesday</i> veritasnorcal@gmail.com
Adult Catechism	Fr. Joshua Curtis, FSSP <i>Adults, Second & Fourth Thursday</i> frcurtis@fssp.com
Chesterton Society	Spencer Roundtree <i>Adults, Second Tuesday</i> sac.chesterton@gmail.com
Knights of Columbus #16419	William Giovannetti <i>Adult men, Third Wednesday</i> 916-531-4730
Ushers	Roger Soto <i>Adult men, Sundays & Holy Days</i> 209-610-1163
Security	Federico Serrano <i>Adult Men, Sundays & Parish Events</i> 916-907-4236
Altar Linen & Flowers Society	Tomoko McDonough <i>Adult women, Third Saturday</i> mcdonoughmommy6@gmail
Church Flowers	Greta Munsill <i>Friday or Saturday</i> 916-425-7112
Church Cleaning	Eli Gonzalez <i>Wednesday</i> 916-395-7408
Collection Count Crew	Kelly Manstch <i>Monday</i> Parish Office 916-451-5114
Brown Bag Lunch Program	Maureen Olguin <i>Sunday</i> jmolguin5960@att.net
The Gabriel Project	Catarina Hinojos <i>On call</i> 415-286-6228
Senior's Lunch (55+)	Ann Zacharias <i>Third Thursday</i> 916-838-7404
Coffee & Donuts	Nicole <i>Sunday</i> mrs99@pm.me

PLEASE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

**Fr. Jacob Kasak, FSSP;
Sr. MaryAnne Regina, CM; Sr. Kiana Nava, OSB**

Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in thee.

PASTOR'S COLUMN

BLESSINGS AT THE COMMUNION RAIL

It has become the custom at some parishes (traditional or otherwise) to bless people at the Communion rail, when for one reason or another they are not able to receive Holy Communion. To my knowledge this has never been the practice at our parish. More recently, however, some inconsistency in the practice of the priests here has become a source of confusion for a number of the faithful.

I recently consulted with the priests in our province, which to my surprise elicited a rather spirited conversation. What became clear was that – while a small minority of our priests were in favor of these blessings – most were in principle opposed, even if they tolerated it in practice.

The reasons against it are several: 1. it is a novel practice; 2. it is not coherent with the general principle, rarely excepted, that a priest not bless in the immediate presence of the Blessed Sacrament; 3. it is discouraged in writing by Rome (namely, the CDW; admittedly, in a private letter) and by our diocesan statutes.

I have asked the priests not to extend this blessing on a habitual basis, leaving room for their discretion, however, where a person seems to be unduly distressed or confused. This is not to “make everyone happy” – but rather, to avoid any lack of decorum in the course of the sacred liturgy.

I ask that parents carefully catechize their young children who have not yet received First Holy Communion, that the greatest blessing for them at the altar rail is to be in the immediate presence of Our Lord in the Holy Eucharist. They should approach the altar rail with eyes and heart fixed not on the priest, but on Eucharistic King. Kneeling at the altar rail, they should cross their arms reverently and tell Our Lord, so close to them, that they love him and look forward to the joyful day of receiving him sacramentally.

IMPORTANT DATES

Jan 5	Epiphany Water Blessing
Jan 12	First Holy Communion catechism begins
Feb 2-10	Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes
Feb 11	Consecration of FSSP to Our Lady of Lourdes
Feb 15-17	Apostolic Visitation
Mar 5	Ash Wednesday
Apr 13-19	Holy Week
Apr 26	Italian Dinner
May 3	Confirmations (2:30 pm)
May 10, 31	First Holy Communion
Jun 15-21	Camp Sacred Heart
Jun 21-27	Camp Immaculate Heart
Jul 20-24	Parish Retreat (details: Patrick Risse)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday

Second Collection for the Building Fund.

Collection Envelopes are now available for pick up.

Registrations for First Holy Communion catechism are available in the parish bookstore. Children should be seven years old by May, 2025 in order to register for the classes, which begin on Sun, Jan 12. **Registration due today, Jan 5!**

Coffee & Donuts after the 7, 8:30, & 10 am Masses.

Epiphany Water Blessing. Sun, Jan 5, after the 1 pm High Mass (i.e. around 2:45 pm). Because the Vigil of Epiphany falls on a Sunday this year, **we will bless the water in the parish hall**, on account of the impracticality of having hundreds of water bottles out in the nave during Sunday Masses.

Some notes, please read carefully: (1) Water containers must be at least one gallon in size; (2) Containers must be clearly labelled and **placed behind the curtain in the parish hall**; (3) If they are brought on Sunday itself, great care must be taken not to disturb those assisting at Mass from the hall; and (4) Limit of two containers.

This Week

Solemn Mass on Mon, Jan 6, at 6 pm, for the Epiphany.

Epiphany Chalk Blessing after the 7 am Mass on Mon, Jan 6. Cards for the blessing of the home will be made available.

Frs. Franco & Schwab will be away from the parish Wed to Fri of this week for an FSSP meeting in the Bay Area.

Adult Catechism meets on Thurs, Jan 9, at 7 pm.

Youth Group meets on Fri, Jan 10, at 7 pm.

The **Little Flowers, Rosa Mystica**, and the **Sodality of the BVM** meet this Sat, Jan 11.

Looking Ahead

Our Lady Seat of Wisdom Co-op is hosting a fundraiser Sun, Jan 12, 9 am - 4 pm, in the courtyard. Please support the fundraiser by purchasing breakfast, lunch, and baked goods. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

First Holy Communion class begin next Sun, Jan 12, in the parish hall, at 2:45 pm.

Diaper Drive. On Sun, Jan 19, the Knights of Columbus will be accepting donations of diapers (sizes 1-6) and baby wipes for the benefit of the Gabriel Project. Donations can be dropped off before and after all Masses, in the courtyard.

The Institute of Catholic Culture is enrolling people for an in-depth class: *I Believe: A Study of the Nicene Creed* with Fr. David Anderson. **Registrations are due this Thurs, Jan 9.** More details: <https://instituteofcatholicculture.org/i-believe>

Fr. James O'Reilly, FSSP is leading a pilgrimage *In the Footsteps of St. Paul*, in Greece & Turkey, May 9-20. It looks to be quite expensive (~\$6000). For more details, visit:

<https://stcharlespilgrimages.com/oreilly>



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201 29th St., Sacramento. Contact Dianna for details.
For more info: www.womensprayergroupinchrist.org
Supporting the FSSP: www.RealEstatefortheFSSP.wordpress.com



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