

# ST STEPHEN MARTYR CATHOLIC CHURCH



## GOSPEL MEDITATION ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Recently I received a note from a teenager I met years ago. He wrote, “Dear Father Muir, you probably do not remember me, but I wanted to thank you for your inspiring and humorous homilies at the parish. They helped me appreciate the beauty of Catholicism, which I have now embraced in a personal way.” That small note moved me more than he probably imagined. I had no idea my words had taken root in him. I was simply sowing seeds — week by week, Mass by Mass. Someone else — his parents, a youth minister, or God Himself — was doing the deeper work. Now this young man is joyfully reaping a harvest of faith.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus offers living water to a Samaritan woman whose life had been full of searching and disappointment. By the end of their encounter, she becomes a bold and joyful evangelist. Then Jesus turns to his disciples and says something easily overlooked: “One sows and another reaps” (John 4:37). He is helping them — and us — understand how evangelization works. Often, the one who sows the seeds of faith is not the one who sees the fruit.

This Lent, ask yourself: Are you in a sowing phase or a reaping phase? If you are sowing — raising children, praying for someone, mentoring — be patient. Your work matters. If you are reaping — seeing someone come alive in faith — be grateful. You are standing on sacred ground, tilled and watered by others.

Lenten challenge: Thank someone who once sowed faith into your life. And keep sowing, even when the harvest is unseen.— Father John Muir

**HEALING MASS**

“COME TO ME, ALL YOU WHO ARE WEARY AND BURDENED...”

**Friday, March 13th**  
**6:00p.m.**  
**Bilingual Mass**



**LENTEN RECOLLECTION PROMISES YOU CAN TOUCH:**  
*Gods Faithfulness in the Sacraments*  
**March 20th and 27th**  
**7:00pm**

Fr. Leo Ortega, S.Th.D.  
Professor of Systemic Theology  
Archdiocese of Los Angeles

This Lenten recollection helps parishioners rediscover the Sacraments as God’s solemn covenant promises, where He binds Himself to us and gives us His own life. We will explore the Sacraments not as routines or obligations, but as God’s enduring promises, made visible and real in our lives.

Rooted in Scripture and the Church’s tradition, these talks will help us rediscover the Sacraments as encounters with a God who remains faithful, especially in moments of weakness, doubt, and need.

Topics include:

- The Covenants and the God who Sears
- Jesus Christ and the Sacraments: The New Covenant Sealed in Blood
- Living the Oath: Sacramental Life and Discipleship

## LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

Prepare your heart for Easter! Join us for our Parish Communal Penance Service on **Thursday, March 19th** at **7:00PM** in the Church. The service will include a brief scripture reading, a communal examination of conscience, and the opportunity for individual confession with several visiting priests. Experience the healing love of Christ and the grace of forgiveness this season.

Fr. Joseph Magdaong  
Pastor

Fr. Ali Kanissius  
Associate Pastor

Armando & Irene Estrada  
Deacon Couple

Alicia Vazquez  
Office Manager

Dale Ann Torbey  
Business Manager

## MASS SCHEDULE

### Saturday

5:00 PM (English)

### Sunday

7:00 AM (English)

9:00 AM (Spanish)

11:00 AM (Indonesian)

1:00 PM (English)

### Monday—Saturday

8:30 AM (English)

### Perpetual Help Novena Mass

6:00 PM (English)

### Friday

6:00 PM (Bilingual)

### Confessions

Saturdays 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

No Appointment needed

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

**Monday - Friday**

**9:00 AM—6:00 PM**

**(Closed 1:00PM -**

**2:00 PM for lunch)**

Please call the parish office for assistance or to schedule an appointment.

*“We are a diverse faith community that strives to conform ourselves into the image of Christ in and through the power of the Holy Spirit, and nourished by The Word, Sacraments and Tradition to give glory to God and to be a light unto the nations.”*



**MEDITACIÓN DEL EVANGELIO ALENTAR UN ENTENDIMIENTO MÁS PROFUNDO DE LA ESCRITURA**

Durante la Cuaresma se tiene la oportunidad de un encuentro más profundo con Dios por medio de los Sacramentos, especialmente el de la Reconciliación. Las parroquias of-

recen diferentes servicios de reconciliación y en diversos horarios, para que toda persona pueda acercarse y reconciliarse. Hoy, en este tercer domingo de Cuaresma, se nos presenta la sed como fuente de vida. El diálogo entre Jesús y la samaritana nos lo demuestra: “Si conocieras el don de Dios, si supieras quién es el que te pide de beber, tú misma le pedirías agua viva y él te la daría” (Juan 4:10). El comportamiento de Jesús al pedir agua a una mujer no era bien visto y contradecía las costumbres de su tiempo. Sin embargo, ese diálogo entre ambos no tiene nada de desperdicio: fue un diálogo perfecto, al grado que la mujer samaritana se convierte en misionera.

Este personaje, la mujer samaritana, no tiene nombre. De tal manera que yo puedo poner el mío y entablar mi propia conversación con el Señor en la oración. ¿A qué pozo voy por agua? ¿Dónde está Jesús, cansado y sediento? ¿Qué me pide que haga? ¿Dónde debo anunciarlo? Señor, como a la samaritana, hazme testigo de tu Evangelio. Para lograrlo, recordemos que el Espíritu Santo, desde nuestro Bautismo, ha sido derramado en nosotros como fuente de agua viva. No hay excusa para no participar como discípulos misioneros en nuestras parroquias, en la familia y en la sociedad. ¡Señor, dame de esa agua, y así ya no sufriré más sed!

*Por sus llagas eres sanado  
Isaías 53:5*

**MISA DE SANACION**

**viernes, 13 de marzo 6:00p.m.  
Misa sera bilingue**

**SERVICIO DE PENITENCIA DE CUARESMA**

¡PREPARA TU CORAZÓN PARA LA PASCUA! ACOMPÁÑANOS EN NUESTRO SERVICIO COMUNITARIO DE PENITENCIA PARROQUIAL EL JUEVES 19 DE MARZO A LAS 7:00PM EN LA IGLESIA. EL SERVICIO INCLUIRÁ UNA BREVE LECTURA DE LAS SAGRADAS ESCRITURAS, UN EXAMEN DE CONCIENCIA COMUNITARIO Y LA OPORTUNIDAD DE CONFESARSE INDIVIDUALMENTE CON VARIOS SACERDOTES VISITANTES. EXPERIMENTA EL AMOR SANADOR DE CRISTO Y LA GRACIA DEL PERDÓN EN ESTA TEMPORADA.

**Seminario de Vida en el Espiritu**

**cada miercoles  
del 4 de Febrero  
al 25 de Marzo  
(\*no el 18 de Febrero)  
en Salon 6  
6pm - 8pm**

**Predicadora: 11 de marzo Elizabeth Carrillo**

**Ahora yo voy a enviar sobre ustedes lo que mi padre me prometio. Permanezcan, pues, en la ciudad hasta que sean revestidos de la fuerza que viene de arriba  
Lucas 24, 49**

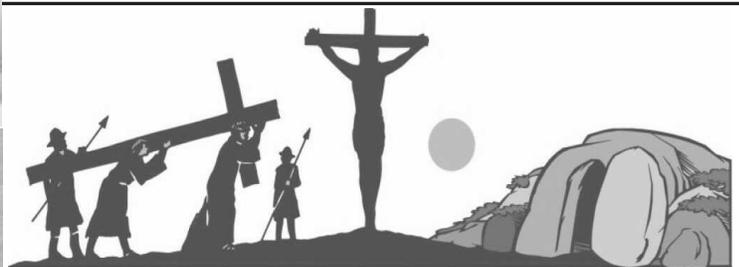


**MESA DE SAN JOSÉ**

Acompáñenos a la tradición italiana de la bendición de la Mesa de San José el sábado 21 de marzo, después de la Misa de las 5:00PM.

La celebración continuará el domingo 22 de marzo, después de todas las misas. Se servirá un almuerzo de espaguetis de 11:00AM a 3:00PM. Únase a la comunidad para disfrutar de deliciosa comida, diversión y familia.

Si desea donar productos horneados, por favor, entréguelos en el salón parroquial antes de las 2:00PM del sábado 21 de marzo.



El Vía Crucis, también conocido como Vía Crucis, conmemora la pasión y muerte de Jesús en la cruz. Consta de 14 estaciones, cada una de las cuales representa un momento de su camino al Calvario, generalmente a través del arte sacro, oraciones y reflexiones. La práctica comenzó cuando los peregrinos piadosos seguían su camino por Jerusalén en la Vía Dolorosa.

**El Vía Crucis se celebrará dentro de la iglesia todos los viernes hasta el 27 de marzo a las 5:30 pm en Español y a las 7:00 pm en Inglés.**

# MARCH 8, 2026 - THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



## ST JOSEPH TABLE

Join us for the Italian tradition of the blessing of St. Joseph's Table on Saturday, March 21st after the 5:00PM Mass.

The celebration will continue on Sunday, March 22nd and will take place after all of the Masses. A spaghetti lunch will be served from 11:00AM until 3:00PM. Join the community as we enjoy delicious food, fun and family.

If you would like to make a donation of baked goods, please deliver them the parish hall by 2:00 PM on Saturday, March 21st

### *Journey to the Cross: Seven Last Words of Jesus "Father, forgive them..."*

Take time out of your busy schedule this to walk with Jesus in His final moments. Join us on Saturday, March 28th at 10:00am for a special recollection, where we will meditate on the profound, life-changing final words of our Savior. Let us enter into the silence of the Passion and prepare our hearts for the Resurrection.

A light lunch will be served in the Gathering Place



Wednesday, March 4th \$34.00

Friday, March 6th \$62.00

March 7th & 8th \$5,436.00

Online \$788.00

Second Collection \$1,472.00

Thank you for your commitment to your parish.



### SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2026

5:00 pm Moisesana Dilao Rejuso (D)  
Isabelo Barrun Rejuso Sr. (D)  
Vina Isabel Manalo Rejuso (D)  
Celia Guerrero (D)

### SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2026

7:00 am Celia Guerrero (D)  
9:00 am Guadalupe Ocampo (D)  
Jaime Aispuro Beltran (D)  
1:00 pm Bruce Foster (L)

### MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2026

8:30 am Celia Guerrero (D)  
Guadalupe Ocampo (D)  
Lawrence Bagwan (D)

### TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2026

8:30 am Celia Guerrero (D)  
Guadalupe Ocampo (D)  
Josefina Koga (L) Healing

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2026

8:30 am Celia Guerrero (D)  
Guadalupe Ocampo (D)  
Bruce Foster (L)

### THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2026

8:30 am Celia Guerrero (D)  
Guadalupe Ocampo (D)  
Robert Ong (D)

### FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2026

8:30 am Celia Guerrero (D)  
Guadalupe Ocampo (D)  
6:00 pm Animas Benditas del Purgatorio (D)

### SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026

8:30 am Celia Guerrero (D)  
Guadalupe Ocampo (D)



## STATIONS of the CROSS

The Stations of the Cross, also known as the Way of the Cross or Via Crucis, commemorate Jesus's passion and death on the cross. There are 14 stations that each depict a moment on his journey to Calvary, usually through sacred art, prayers, and reflections. The practice began as pious pilgrims traced his path through Jerusalem on the Via Dolorosa.

Stations of the Cross will be held inside of the church every Friday thru March 27th 5:30 pm in Spanish and 7:00 pm in English.

**Please Pray For...** Lung - Tam Family, Rosalie Pinto, Augie & Annamae Koch, Jesusita Serrano, Alicia Valdez, Armando Romo, Dolores Munoz, Alicia Islas, Denise Gonzales, Laura Sesti, Guadalupe Ayala, Helen Rivera, Margarita Audelo, Amelia Barraza, Alicia Nunez, Vikky Rogers, Michael Anthony Barraza, Tina Ran, Leo Sanchez, Douglas Perales, Frances, Krystal & Sai Lam, Carlos Espinoza Ornelas, Bruce Foster

To insure that the prayer list is accurate, please contact the parish office on a monthly basis if you would like for your name to remain on the list.

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