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ST STEPHEN MARTYR CATHOLIC CHURCH



GOSPEL MEDITATION ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

I've been hiking Camelback Mountain in Phoenix, Arizona most of my life. It is a vigorous forty-five minutes to the top. Near the peak, the end suddenly appears much further away, and steeper. At that moment, a descending hiker often offers encouragement: "Keep going! The peak is right there. It's not as far as it looks. You can do it!" It usually works. After another five minute push, you summit and enjoy a glorious panorama of the Sonoran Desert in the Valley of the Sun.

When Jesus is asked about how many people are saved, he says: "Strive to enter through the narrow gate" (Luke 13:24). How many? Strive! Focus on your journey. What does heavenly census taking have to do with you or me? How would it help a hiker on a mountain to ask the others coming down, "How many people are going to make it to the top?" A normal response would be something like: "How is that a relevant question? Carry on!"

Jesus links one virtue directly to salvation: perseverance (cf. Matt 24:13; hypomone in Greek). Strive! Endure! Keep going! The one absolutely necessary virtue is perseverance, to not give up on our journey. The mountain we struggle to climb is often our own weakness, failures, and sins. Persevere in prayer. Keep celebrating the sacraments. Embrace daily duties. With God's grace, you are strong enough to keep going. Perhaps the peak is not as far away as you might fear. Keep going! — Father John Muir



Are you an adult interested in joining the Catholic faith, or completing the

sacraments of Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation?

St Stephen's OCIA will be having meetings to answer your questions!

Please join us on one of the following dates for a orientation meeting in Room 1 from 11:30 to 12:30.

Sunday, August 24th & September 7th



"Fear Not because I am with you, be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my glorious right hand" Isaiah 41:10

If you have experienced the loss of a loved one, please consider joining our group. The group will meet on the last Friday of the month at 7pm in Room 1.

The Bereavement Group encourages people to trust their feelings and grieve in the way that seems most helpful to them. We share feelings, exchange stories and support one another through prayer, asking for peace and acceptance.



Registration for the 2025 - 2026 Confirmation year is currently underway and will end on the second week of September.

**Classes begin on
Saturday, September 13, 2025
9am - 10am in room 5**

Who is Confirmation designed for?

Confirmation is a two-year process for high school teenagers who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Year 1 is for teens going into 9th, 10th, or 11th grade and Year 2 follows subsequently.

Please contact Rannie (626)253-4933 or David (626)267-7603 for more information about registration.

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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
9am—6pm
(closed 1pm—2pm
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."

WEBSITE: STSTEPHENMPK.ORG - EMAIL: ST.STEPHEN.MARTYR@GMAIL.COM



MEDITACIÓN DEL EVANGELIO ALENTAR UN ENTENDIMIENTO MÁS PROFUNDO DE LA ESCRITURA

¿Has intentado alguna vez o has tenido la experiencia de entrar por alguna puerta angosta? Es incómodo y te sientes apretado si

intentan entrar más de dos personas al mismo tiempo. Nos gustan las puertas anchas, altas y bonitas. La puerta angosta es para entrar de uno en uno, no más. "Esfuércense por entrar por la puerta angosta, porque yo les digo que muchos tratarán de entrar y no lo lograrán" (Lucas 13:24). La manera de hablar de Jesús es diferente a otras ocasiones. Habla claro y directo: dice "esfuércense". Nada es fácil; moldear la arcilla de lo que estamos hechos requiere de esfuerzo.

El Evangelio de hoy también nos advierte: "Unos que estaban entre los últimos son ahora los primeros, mientras que los primeros han pasado a ser los últimos" (Lucas 13:30). ¡Qué sorpresa tan grande! Dios no nos reconocerá por nuestros títulos ni por los puestos de importancia en la sociedad, mucho menos por la riqueza y las propiedades. Así que, ahora sí, se comprende el mensaje de esforzarse para entrar por la puerta angosta. "Ahora considero un deber mío explicarles por qué la puerta es angosta. Cualesquiera que desee entrar, primero, y antes que nada, tiene que poseer una fe honrada e incontaminada; en segundo lugar, una vida sin mancha, sin pecado, en la que no existan posibilidades de culpa, conforme a la medida de la justicia humana" (San Cirilo de Alejandría, 375-444, Comentario al Evangelio de San Lucas).



CONFIRMACION

La inscripción para el año 2025-2026 de Confirmación está actualmente en marcha y finalizará la segunda semana de septiembre. Las clases comienzan el sábado 13 de septiembre de 2025 de 9am a 10am en el salón 5.

¿Para quién está diseñada la Confirmación?
La Confirmación es un proceso de dos años para adolescentes de secundaria que se están preparando para el Sacramento de la Confirmación. El primer año es para adolescentes que están en el 9.º, 10.º o 11.º grado y el segundo año sigue posteriormente.

Comuníquese con Rannie (626)253-4933 o David (626)267-7603 para registrarse.

Adoración del Santísimo

5 de septiembre 2025

Adoración del Santísimo

3:00 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.

Misa

6:00 P.M.



Luz del Espíritu Santo
Grupo de Oración

Predicador
Jorge Mejia
miércoles, 27 de agosto
las 6:00pm

Presencial en Salon 6

Zoom
ID 829 4029 7572

Por sus llagas eres sanado
Isaías 53:5

MISA DE SANACION
viernes, 12 de septiembre 6:00pm
Misa sera bilingue

Proyecto de Reparación: ¡Su Apoyo Importa!

Estimada Familia Parroquial:

A medida que continuamos creciendo y sirviendo a nuestra comunidad, es esencial que nuestras instalaciones reflejen nuestro compromiso de brindar un espacio acogedor y seguro para el culto, la confraternidad y el ministerio. Actualmente, nuestra línea de gas del sistema de climatización (HVAC) requiere reparaciones importantes para garantizar que podamos seguir ofreciendo un ambiente de culto cómodo y cálido durante el próximo invierno.

Este proyecto de reparación, con un costo estimado de \$14,700.00, es vital para el éxito continuo de la misión de San Esteban en nuestra comunidad. Solicitamos su consideración y generoso apoyo financiero para ayudarnos a alcanzar esta meta. Cada donación, grande o pequeña, nos acerca a garantizar un espacio vibrante y funcional en los años venideros.

Para obtener más información sobre este proyecto y hacer una donación, comuníquese con la oficina parroquial. También puede contribuir a través de nuestra plataforma de donaciones en línea o marcando su sobre de donación como "Proyecto de Reparación de Línea de Gas" y entregándolo en la oficina parroquial o depositándolo en la canasta de recolección.

Gracias por su fidelidad y colaboración en el ministerio mientras trabajamos juntos para fortalecer nuestra iglesia y comunidad.

AUGUST 24, 2025 - TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

September 5, 2025

Adoration of the
Blessed Sacrament
3:00 P.M.—5:30 P.M.

Mass
6:00 P.M.



WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

Offertory/Online:

August 13—17 \$ 7,740.00
Weekly Expenses: \$ 9,050.00
Over/(Under) \$(1,310.00)

*Thank you for your continued
support and generosity.*



HEALING MASS

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

Friday, September
12th 6:00pm
Bilingual Mass

Repair Project: Your Support Matters!

Dear Church Family,

As we continue to grow and serve our community, it's essential that our facilities reflect our commitment to providing a welcoming and safe space for worship, fellowship, and ministry. Currently, our HVAC gas line requires significant repairs to ensure we can continue to offer a comfortable warm worship environment this coming winter season.

This repair project, estimated at \$14,700.00, is vital to the ongoing success of St. Stephens' mission in our community. We are asking for your prayerful consideration and generous financial support to help us reach this goal. Every donation, large or small, brings us closer to ensuring a vibrant and functional space for years to come.

To learn more about this project and make a donation, please contact the parish office. You can also contribute through our online giving platform or by marking your donation envelope for "Gas Line Repair Project" and delivering it to the parish office or placing it in the collection basket.

Thank you for your faithfulness and partnership in ministry as we work together to strengthen our church and community.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 2025

5:00 pm Irma Alvarenga (D)
Tam Family (L)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 2025

7:00 am Roco Polini (D)
9:00 am Ioanna Jacobo y Familia (L)
1:00 pm Rita Thoms (D)

MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 2025

8:30 am Maria Mayrena (L)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2025

8:30 am David Russell (L)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2025

8:30 am Altagracia Flores-Rodriguez (D)

6:00 pm Lucina Pablo (L)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2025

8:30 am Jose F. Balanay (D)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, 2025

8:30 am Josefa Fernandez (D)
Hilda Velasquez (D) Happy Birthday
Koa R. Sanchez - Happy Birthday!!!
6:00 pm Alicia Valdez (L)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 2025

8:30 am Lydia Diaz (D)



DID YOU KNOW?

What having a "healthy caution" toward adults can mean, part 1

Having a "healthy caution" about adults in your life does not mean treating all adults as potential perpetrators. It is important to increase awareness about the dangers and the signs of abuse without creating paranoia. Safe adults should not be vigilante protectors, but should have a perspective of caution and should not ignore warning signs of inappropriate behavior. To learn more, read the VIRTUS® article "Why Should We Have a 'Healthy Caution' Toward Adults" at lacatholics.org/did-you-know.

Please Pray For... Lung - Tam Family, Rosalie Pinto, Augie & Annamae Koch, Jesusita Serrano, Mayra Alvarenga, Alicia Valdez, Armando Romo, Dolores Munoz, Carmelita Rodriguez, Alicia Islas, Juan Manuel Soto, Denise Gonzales, Sally Ann Thomas, Jennifer De Coteau, Case De Coteau, Laura Sesti, Heather McGee, Angie Rivas, Maggie Perales, Lucy Orlandi, Guadalupe Ayala, Rigoberto Alvarenga, Helen Rivera, Margarita Audelo, Amelia Barraza, Alicia Nunez, Carlos Espinoza Ornelas, Vikky Rogers

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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Abogada Alexandra
Abogada de Inmigración

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