

320 W. GARVEY AVE. MONTEREY PARK 91754 (626)573-0427

# ST STEPHEN MARTYR CATHOLIC CHURCH



## GOSPEL MEDITATION ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

One of my favorite movies is the 1991 comedy What About Bob? Bill Murray plays a troubled, paranoid hypochondriac named Bob Wiley who innocently but annoyingly hounds Dr. Leo Marvin, played by Richard Dreyfuss. Bob is paralyzed by his fear of, well, everything, and is convinced the psychologist can heal him. But Dr. Marvin's failed attempts to heal Bob end up driving the doctor to attempt to murder Bob. He fails. The surprise is that, having faced death head on, Bob is suddenly healed. He attributes his healing to Dr Marvin for break-through "death therapy." In facing the cause of his deepest illness and dysfunction, Bob is healed.

Underneath this light-hearted comedy is a dead-serious resonance with this week's feast: the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Christ is lifted up on the cross to force us to face the truth of sin and death. In that reckoning we find healing. Like Moses' snake on a pole, the cross says: this is what is causing your sickness – rebellion, disobedience, sin. Look at it! Don't run from it. Now seeing it exposed, we see life. We see our physician mercifully healing us. In this sense, we are all like Bob Wiley. The "death therapy" of the cross is our only hope for healing.

This week I invite you to "exalt the cross." If you don't have one in your house, get one. Use it for prayer. Gaze on it frequently. It teaches us to not be afraid. It heals us. — Father John Muir

*Mass and Procession  
in Honor  
of the Holy Spirit  
Tuesday, September 16th at  
8:30a.m.*

*Jesus said to St. Mary of Jesus Crucified:  
"I ardently hope that priests celebrate a  
Mass every month in honor of the Holy  
Spirit. Whoever offers it or hears it, will be  
honored by the Holy Spirit Himself; he will  
have light, he will have peace. He will heal  
the sick, wake those who sleep..."*

*St. Stephen Martyr Church  
Hawaiian Gala  
Sunday, October 12th  
4:30pm to 9:00pm  
Doubletree Hotel  
\$85.00  
Tickets are available  
for purchase at the  
parish office.*

## Bible Study Coming Soon!

"The Bible Timeline - The Story of Salvation" video series with workbook. We would like to schedule on Sunday before or after the 1pm Mass!

Please call Denise Gonzalez 626-327-2113 for further information.



Registration for the 2025 - 2026 Confirmation year is currently underway and will end this week.

## 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.

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  
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**

“La Cruz es el camino que conduce de la tierra al cielo. Quien se abraza a ella con fe, amor y esperanza se siente transportado a lo alto, hasta el seno de la Trinidad” (Santa Benedicta de la Cruz). También decía en sus escritos: “La Cruz es el símbolo de la transformación de la debilidad en la fuerza”. Muchas personas llevan en su pecho una cruz y, muchas veces, la lucen tan solo porque es de oro y luce bonita. Pero, ¿sabes lo que significa? ¿Qué respeto tienes por ella?

“Hoy, 14 de septiembre, la Iglesia celebra la fiesta de la Exaltación de la Santa Cruz. Alguna persona podría preguntarnos: ¿Por qué exaltar la cruz? Podemos responder que no exaltamos una cruz cualquiera, o todas las cruces; exaltamos la cruz de Jesús, porque en ella se reveló al máximo el amor de Dios por la humanidad. Es lo que nos recuerda el evangelio de Juan en la liturgia de hoy: 'Tanto amó Dios al mundo que entregó a su Unigénito' (3:16). El Padre dio al Hijo para salvarnos, y esto implicó la muerte de Jesús, y la muerte en la cruz. ¿Por qué? ¿Por qué fue necesaria la cruz? A causa de la gravedad del mal que nos esclavizaba. La cruz de Jesús expresa ambas cosas: toda la fuerza negativa del mal y toda la omnipotencia mansa de la misericordia de Dios” (Papa Francisco). Por la señal de la santa cruz...



Luz del Espíritu Santo  
Grupo de Oración

**Predicadora  
Liliana Becerra  
miercoles, 18 de septiembre  
las 6:00pm**

**Presencial en Salon 6**

**Zoom  
ID 829 4029 7572**

**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.

**Hasta la fecha hemos recaudado \$3,027.00 para este proyecto.**

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

**Misa y Procesión en Honor  
al Espíritu Santo  
martes 16 de septiembre a las 8:30 a.m.**

Jesús le dijo a Santa María de Jesús Crucificado: *“Deseo ardientemente que los sacerdotes celebren cada mes una Misa en honor al Espíritu Santo. Sea quien sea el que la ofrezca el que la escuche, será honrado por el propio Espíritu Santo; tendrá luz, tendrá paz. Curará los enfermos, despertará a aquellos que duermen...”* (Santa María de Jesús Crucificado)

**Las velas del altar de septiembre están dedicadas en memoria de María y William Ong, y Ernest y Frances Morgan.**

Si desea patrocinar una vela del altar, llame a la oficina parroquial. Las velas se dedicarán a petición del patrocinador y se encenderán durante todas las misas durante un mes. Al final del mes, se entregarán al patrocinador para que pueda seguir encendidas en casa.

**Salón de Renta**

El salón parroquial de St. Stephens ahora está disponible para alquilar para eventos privados.

Llame a la oficina parroquial para obtener más información sobre precios y disponibilidad.

# SEPTEMBER 14, 2025 - THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS



*"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.

## 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.

**To date we have collected \$3,027.00 for this project.**

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

**The Altar Candles for the month of September are dedicated in loving memory of Maria & William Ong and Ernest & Frances Morgan**

Please call the parish office if you would like to sponsored an Altar Candle. Sponsored candles will be dedicated to the sponsors request and will be lit during all of the Masses for 1 month. Candles will then be given to the sponsor at the end of the month so that they may continue to be lit at home.



## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

Offertory/Online:

August 27—31 \$ 8,221.00  
Weekly Expenses: **\$10,932.00**  
Over/(Under) \$(2,711.00)

Expenses includes a \$6,152.00 electric bill for the month of August.

**Thank you for your continued support and generosity.**



### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2025

5:00 pm Theresa Alvarenga (D)  
Vina Isabel Manalo Rejuso (D)  
Oscar Villamor Refuerzo (D)  
Jose Aranda Ayala (D)

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

7:00 am John Vosburg (D)  
9:00 am Maria Rodriguez (D)  
Jose Castellanos (D)  
Jose Aranda Ayala (D)  
1:00 pm Juan Pablo Garcia (D)  
Jose Aranda Ayala (D)

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

8:30 am Juan Pablo Garcia (D)  
Jose Aranda Ayala (D)

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

8:30 am Juan Pablo Garcia (D)  
Jose Aranda Ayala (D)

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2025

8:30 am Jose Aranda Ayala (D)  
Serafina C. Ong (D)  
6:00 pm Helen Rivera (L)

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2025

8:30 am Jose Aranda Ayala (D)

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2025

8:30 am Jose Aranda Ayala (D)  
Jason Perales - Happy Birthday!!!  
6:00 pm Alicia Valdez (L)

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2025

8:30 am Juan Pablo Garcia (D)

**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 bases if you would like for your name to remain on the list.**