

SAINT STEPHEN FIRST MARTYR



CATHOLIC CHURCH



July 19, 2026



THE WHOLE BATCH WAS
LEAVENED.

— MATTHEW 13:33 —

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

©LPi

WEEKLY PRAYER

MASS INTENTIONS

REQUESTED BY

SATURDAY, JULY 18

05:00pm †Soul of Clem Pitzen.....Mark Pitzen

SUNDAY, JULY 19

08:00am †Souls of Richard Young Sr. & Richard Young Jr.....Diana Young

10:00am †Souls of the Keiffer Family.....Pat Delzeith

12:00pm Pro Populo ~ For the Community

MONDAY, JULY 20

12:00pm Our Parish Community

07:00pm Our Parish Community

TUESDAY, JULY 21

12:00pm Our Parish Community

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

12:00pm †Soul of Gerald Poertner.....Gudrun Poertner

THURSDAY, JULY 23

12:00pm Our Parish Community

07:00pm Our Parish Community

FRIDAY, JULY 24

7:00pm Our Parish Community

SATURDAY, JULY 25

05:00pm †Soul of Eric Johanson Sr.Eric & Rita Johanson

SUNDAY, JULY 26

08:00am †Soul of Anita Mottley.....Henry & Ione Phillips

10:00am †Soul of Thomas E Spurgeon and Margaret Trisch.....
.....Spurgeon Family

12:00pm Pro Populo ~ For the Community

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

OUR SICK AND HOMEBOUND FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Axel Bateman	Janice Robertson	Nellie Orta
Michael Thomas	Tom & Jeannine Wing	Angela Wheeler
Maria Crowe	Nancy Hill	Merle Stroud
Jaoquina Meno	June Holt	Renee Millner
Iris	Leslie Shaw	Larry Harris
Alaia Sanmiguel Barrero	Stacy Fletcher	Dottie Cozier
Zulma Rivera	Sandra Powell	Fred Hand
Angel Rivera	Joyce Elliott	Iris Potett
Cheryl Birthrong	Laurie Elliott	Mary Huffman
Susan Marie	Doug Walker	Joan Rambach
Jimmy Marchini	Hettie Johnson	Chambers Family
John H.	Dillion Bovinger	Jane Chatman
Richard & Christine	Summer Jones	Gudrun Poertner
Williams	Robert JoVan	Cindy Gray
David Weeks	Lounell Scott	Ethin Nettle
Sara J. Wheeler	David Weeks	Bonny Pecenak
Joe & Pat Johnson	Walter Helmick	Amy Smith
Gary Hubbard	Andre McCall	



WEEKLY READINGS

WEEK OF JULY 19

Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16/Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

Monday: Mi 6:1-4, 6-8/Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-8/Mt 12:46-50

Wednesday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Thursday: Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13/Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-9, 10-11/Mt 13:10-17

Friday: Jer 3:14-17/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/Mt 13:18-23

Saturday: 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Mt 20:20-28

Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130/Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

Observances for the week of July 19, 2026

Sunday: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: St. Apollinaris, Bishop and Martyr

Tuesday: St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Wednesday: St. Mary Magdalene

Thursday: St. Bridget, Religious

Friday: St. Sharbel Makhlūf, Priest

Saturday: St. James, Apostle

Next Sunday: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

WORD OF LIFE

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: FULL HANDS

**"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everyone was asleep his enemy came and sowed weeds all through the wheat, and then went off."
(Mt 13:24-25)**

This parable is a description of life itself. Whereas some people make an effort to do good, others go behind sowing weeds, doing bad things, and destroying the work that others have done. Because it is easier to destroy than to build, we often have the impression that evil gains ground while good loses. This causes discouragement and even a crisis of faith, and we frequently ask the Lord, like in the parable, why He allows that to happen and why He does not intervene.

God has His time, which of course, is not ours. We must trust Him, for He knows what is going on. But we can and should do more. It is not enough not to get discouraged. We must take action and try to defeat evil with good. We must work faster than our enemies, and in order to do so, we have to think of the magnificent reward that Christ has promised us: Eternal Life. What would we do for money? Would we not forgive, help or be at the side of the suffering? And, if we do this for more or less large amounts of money, why not do it out of love for God, Who is our Creator, Who has given up His life for us, and-let's not forget-Who will judge us?

Purpose: Defeat evil by doing good. Establish concrete goals, within your reach, so as not to fall into generalizations and vagueness. Do not get discouraged.

PALABRA DE VIDA

DOMINGO XIV DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO: LAS MANOS LLENAS

"El reino de los cielos se parece a un hombre que sembró buena semilla en su campo; pero, mientras la gente dormía, un enemigo fue y sembró cizaña en medio del trigo y se marchó" (Mt 13, 24-25)

Esta parábola es una fiel descripción de la vida misma. Mientras algunos se esfuerzan por hacer el bien, otros van por detrás sembrando cizaña, haciendo el mal, destruyendo la labor que los otros han hecho. Y como es más fácil destruir que construir, con frecuencia tenemos la impresión de que el mal avanza y de que el bien pierde continuamente terreno. Esto nos suele producir desánimo e incluso crisis de fe, y con frecuencia -como en la parábola-, le preguntamos al Señor que por qué lo permite, que por qué no interviene.

Dios tiene su tiempo y, desde luego, no es el nuestro. Debemos fiarnos de Él, pues sabe lo que se hace. Pero podemos y debemos hacer algo más. No basta con no desanimarse, hay que pasar a la acción e intentar vencer al mal con el bien. Debemos trabajar más rápido que nuestros enemigos y para ello tenemos que pensar en el magnífico salario que Cristo nos ha prometido: la vida eterna. ¿Qué haríamos por dinero? ¿No perdonaríamos, no socorreríamos, no estaríamos al lado del que sufre? Y si eso lo haríamos por cantidades más o menos grandes de dinero, ¿por qué no hacerlo por amor a un Dios que es nuestro Creador, que ha dado la vida por nosotros y que -no lo olvidemos- nos va a juzgar?

Propósito: Vencer el mal a fuerza de bien. Establecer propósitos concretos, a nuestro alcance, para no caer en la generalización y la vaguedad. Y no desalentarse.



FRANCISCANS OF MARY - FRANCISCANOS DE MARIA

EMAIL: INFORMATION@FRANCISCANSOFMARY.ORG EMAIL: CONSULTAS@FRMARIA.ORG

WEBSITE: [HTTPS://FRANCISCANOSDEMARIA.ORG/EN](https://franciscanosdemaria.org/en) TV: [HTTPS://MAGNIFICAT.TV/](https://magnificat.tv/)



Franciscans of Mary

Missionaries of Gratitude

PRAYER

Jesus, I trust in you.

I know that whatever happens to me is a fruit of your love.

Jesus, I love you.

You are first in my heart.

Jesus, I adore you.

You are more important than my job, my money or any other thing.

Jesus, I GIVE YOU THANKS

For having created me, for having become man, for having died and risen from the dead, for the Eucharist and Confession, for the Church, the Blessed Virgin Mary and the saints, for the things that I have had, for the things that I have, because I am able to help others, and for the affection that I receive.

Jesus, I ask for your forgiveness.

For the evil that I have committed and for the good I have failed to do.

Jesus, I ask for your help.

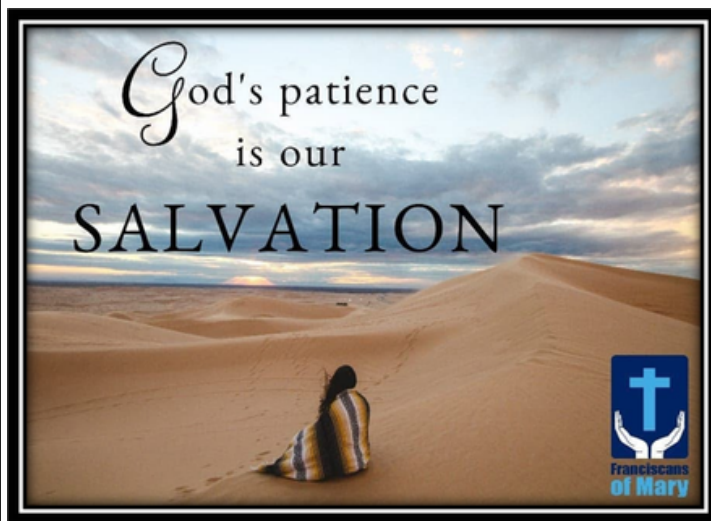
I ask for spiritual graces, such as the overcoming of my defects and for material help, for me, for others and for society.

Jesus, I offer myself to you.

You can count on me for whatever you want.

LIKE MARY.

With the tenderness of your mother and through Her way of living by living the virtues.
Amen.



“Do you want us to go and pull them up? 'He replied, 'No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest.”

Matthew 13:28-30



PARISH PULSE

SAVE THE DATE

July 24th - 6-9pm - Operation 250 American Karaoke Show! Bring your voice, bring your family and make memories with us!

August 1-2 Second Collection for our **Building Fund** to support repairs and maintenance!

August 8-9

Diocese of Savannah Second Collection for Latin America

Respect Life T-Shirt Sales - After all the Masses Respect Life will be taking orders for "All Lives are Sacred" T-shirts to raise money to support Respect Life's National Day of Remembrance!

August 11th 6pm - Respect Life Meeting
General meeting open to everyone!

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

JOIN US IN WISHING A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THOSE CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

7/20 - Rene' Garcia, Linda Schisler, Jennifer Williams

7/21 - Amy Elkins, Joshua Fejeran, Alfred Wing

7/22 - Kathryn Keune

7/24 - Anna Spurgeon

7/25 - Emily Martinez Mendiola, Avery Rose Michel, Kevin Michel

7/26 - Nico Elia

*Happy
Birthday*



ST. STEPHEN
FIRST MARTYR
CATHOLIC CHURCH

FAITH FORMATION

Growing in Faith Together



FAITH FORMATION
**SIGN UP
HAS BEGUN!**

SIGN UP IS
AVAILABLE ONLINE



FAMILY DAY!

AUGUST 15TH
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

MEET THE TEACHERS AND
ENJOY FUN ACTIVITIES!

This event is open to all families!



SCAN THE QR CODE
TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE
FOR MORE INFORMATION
AND TO REGISTER!



BUILDING FAITH • STRENGTHENING FAMILIES • SHARING CHRIST

OPERATION 250



American Karaoke Show

FRIDAY JULY 24TH

★ 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM ★

ST. STEPHEN SOCIAL HALL

399 WOODLAND DR.
HINESVILLE, GA 31313



Join us as we celebrate 250 years of
American freedom with an unforgettable
night of karaoke, community, fellowship,
dancing, and all-American food.

★ *Bring your voice, bring your family,
and make memories with us!* ★

MINISTRIES IN ACTION



Bible Study St. Stephen

Tuesday's, 10-11:30am.
All are welcome to come to the social hall for our Bible Study discerning on the liturgy for the upcoming week.



Grief Support Ministry —You are not alone—

Grief Support Meeting
1st and 3rd Tuesday's at 7pm. Find comfort and healing from your grief of a lost loved one or companion.



The Prayer Ministry provides prayer support to our parishioners and to the community through prayer. To be a member please email sshprayers@gmail.com and get added to the prayer chain emails. There is a Prayer Intention book at the back of the church for you to write your prayer request or you can make a prayer request by email: sshprayers@gmail.com



Thursday's 6-8:00 pm Saint Stephen Social Hall

The Youth Ministries purpose is to inspire other young people by making a positive impact on our Christian community, bringing joy, hope, comfort, and faith. We focus on the teachings of Jesus and take Blessed Carlo Acutis as our role model, who said: "Let yourself be found by God, and you will see a change in your life." "Sow a seed, and you will reap many fruits." Open to Youth Ages 14 to 23.

Jueves de 6-8:00 pm Salon Social San Esteban

El propósito del Ministerio Juvenil es inspirar a otros jóvenes, generando un impacto positivo en nuestra comunidad cristiana, brindando alegría, esperanza, consuelo y fe. Nos centramos en las enseñanzas de Jesús y tomamos como modelo a seguir a San Carlo Acutis, quien dijo: "Déjate encontrar por Dios y verás un cambio en tu vida. Siembra una semilla y cosecharás muchos frutos".

Abierto a jóvenes de 14 a 23 años.

School of Gratitude

Father Estrada is hosting a School of Gratitude for Adults on Thursday's after 12pm Mass and for Young Adults Thursday's at 6pm. Everyone is welcome to join!



Escuela de Gratitude

El Padre Estrada está impartiendo una Escuela de Agradecimiento los lunes después de la Misa. ¡Todos son bienvenidos a unirse!

MINISTRIES IN ACTION



The Respect Life Ministry reflects "Life" through prayers and work.
Every Life is "Special" and sacred from Conception till Death.
Fall activities begin September -October !
Life is a Gift from God! Support Life today and every day!



We invite all the crafty individuals to join us for our monthly meeting in the social hall for fellowship and crafts.
Our next craft meeting is August 8th from 11a-2p and will be Angel and Heavenly themed. You can always work on your current project also.



We have a lovely selection of religious jewelry, spiritual books, candles, decor, and so much more. Come visit our gift shop for your faith based items and gifts. Scan the QR code to go to our FB for updates & hours.



St. Stephen's Parishioners;

Did you know that we have a 1 acre meditation garden? However, much like our kitchen it doesn't take care of itself. If you wish to help our gardener would love to hear from you! Please call or text him at 912-610-1184.



KOC members are a community of like-minded Catholic men who challenge each other to grow in faith and put that faith into action. Our local chapter holds meetings the 1st Monday of every month at 7p.



CCW will begin meeting monthly on the 2nd Tuesday starting September 8th
Join us for a Meet & Greet sign up! Light refreshments will be provided by current members. Sign in begins at 6pm and the meeting will begin at 6:30pm.
Our local CCW is a part of The National Council of Catholic Women which acts through its members to support, empowering and educating all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership and service.



Next Red Wagon Weekend is August 15th and 16th!

Saint Vincent de Paul (SVdP)



SVdP supports our Parish and local community through their Food Pantry. We meet monthly on the 2nd Thursday at 1:30 PM. Our pantry is open to those in need on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month from 10a-12p. Donations of non-perishable food items and personal hygiene items can be brought anytime and placed in the blue food collection box on the food pantry porch or dropped off at the office during office hours. SVdP also has "Red Wagon Weekends" the 3rd weekend of every month when red wagons are placed in the Narthex to collect donations. If you would like to volunteer and join SVdP, please come to one of our monthly meetings! Thank you for helping us to help others in need!

MEDIA & RESOURCES

PRAYERFUL RESOURCES THE PARISH HAS SUBSCRIBED TO FOR OUR PARISHONERS TO ENJOY!

Hallow

Through prayer and meditation rooted in the Catholic faith, Hallow helps people grow closer to God and find peace, everyday. [Users can pray alongside Fr. Mike, Sr. Miriam, Mark Wahlberg, Jonathan Roumie, + many more. The app also offers mental health and sleep content, audiobooks, and sacred music.]

All parishioners – subscribers and those on the free version – are invited to be a part of our parish page. There, you're able to create a profile, share prayer requests, and take part in prayer challenges together.

- Already on Hallow? Visit the Church tab in the app to create your profile and find our parish (search by parish zip code).

Not yet on Hallow? Visit hallow.com/parish (QR code), search by parish zip code, and follow the prompts. You'll be given a special trial which gives access to all the app's premium content. If you'd like to forgo and remain on the free version, simply hit "Skip" and you'll have access to our parish page.



formed

Formed - It's "Netflix for Catholics" provided free of charge by our Parish! There are Catholic movies, books and audios available for all ages.

Go to formed.org, click formed for parishes to start creating your account. Search by zip code 31313 to find our parish membership.



The Diocese of Savannah provides Safe Environment Training online at virtusonline.org available in English, Spanish, Vietnamese and Korean. All volunteers must complete training, a background check and sign the code of conduct. Contact the office for questions.

PROMISE
To Protect



Pledge
To HEAL

GUIDELINES FOR RECEIVING THE EUCHARIST

You are not to eat or drink anything except for water or required medicine, for one hour before actually receiving communion. This is called the Communion or Eucharist fast. It is meant to help us focus on our Lord and what we are about to receive. Chewing gum, candy, mints, etc. during Mass is therefore inappropriate. Both forms for receiving the host are acceptable, in the palm of one hand with the other hand underneath, or on the extended tongue. Extend your hands palm-side up toward the priest and stand as close to the priest as possible when receiving Communion. Never take the host from the priest. After receiving the Eucharist, you say Amen. Proper reverence and respect is most important, hands should be reverently folded while waiting to receive the Sacrament.

DIRECTRICES PARA RECIBIR LA EUCARISTÍA

No debes comer ni beber nada excepto agua o medicinas necesarias durante una hora antes de recibir la comunión. Esto se llama ayuno de la Comunión o Eucaristía. Esto es para ayudarnos a centrarnos en nuestro Señor y en lo que estamos a punto de recibir. Por tanto, masticar chicle, caramelos, mentas, etc. durante la misa es inapropiado. Ambas formas de recibir la hostia son aceptables, en la palma de una mano con la otra mano debajo, o en la lengua extendida. Extiende las manos con las palmas hacia arriba hacia el sacerdote y quédate lo más cerca posible del sacerdote al recibir la Comunión. Nunca le quites la hostia al sacerdote. Después de recibir la Eucaristía, dices Amén. La reverencia y el respeto adecuados son lo más importante; las manos deben estar cruzadas con reverencia mientras esperan recibir el Sacramento.



St. Stephen

First Martyr Catholic Church
Hinesville, Georgia



A Safe Church Starts with *You.*



**YOU CAN'T VOLUNTEER FOR ANY
MINISTRIES OR ACTIVITIES AT OUR CHURCH
UNTIL YOU HAVE VIRTUS TRAINING.**

WHAT IS VIRTUS?



VIRTUS®

VIRTUS is a program created to help prevent child abuse and promote a safe environment for all.



The training includes an online session and teaches how to recognize warning signs, respond responsibly, and protect God's children.



← SCAN HERE TO
LEARN MORE OR
GET STARTED.



WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?



Our children, youth, and vulnerable adults are a precious gift from God. **We are called to protect them.**



VIRTUS training helps ensure that our church is a safe, welcoming, and trustworthy place for everyone. **Prevention is our responsibility.**



It equips all volunteers with the knowledge and tools to make safe and appropriate choices. Awareness today, protection tomorrow.



It reflects our faith in action—honoring the dignity of every person and living out Christ's love.

Love. Protect. Serve.



← SCAN HERE TO
LEARN MORE OR
GET STARTED.



Thank you for helping us build a safe and loving community where everyone can grow in faith!



**COMPLETE YOUR VIRTUS TRAINING TODAY
AND BE A PART OF OUR MISSION TO PROTECT.**



For more information or to get started, visit virtusonline.org or contact the parish office.



PARISH STEWARDSHIP

THANK YOU FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Offertory Min \$10,000 needed weekly	July 5 th
Offertory	\$5,904
Building Fund	\$1,761
Online Giving	\$1,212
Week Total	\$8,877

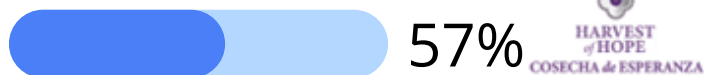
Stewardship is an important concept for spiritual growth. It is a way to thank God for all His blessings. The offertory is the primary means of support for the parish and it's programs.

Online giving is available at
<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/ststephenshinesville>
 or by scanning the QR code.

Scan the QR code
to Give Now!



HARVEST OF HOPE



Harvest of Hope overall goal is \$247,268.00!
 So far we have received \$58,397, with an additional \$83,456 pledged to be paid by the end of the campaign. This has us at 57% of our goal for the Harvest of Hope, Thank you to all who have donated and pledged. Envelopes are in the church or you can go online to
<https://diosav.org/en/hope>
 to donate or make your pledge!

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

BUILDING FUND

August 1st & 2nd

DIOCESE OF SAVANNAH SPECIAL COLLECTION

CHURCH IN AFRICA

July 18th - 19th

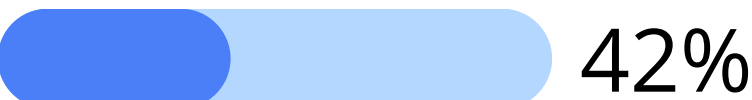


SCAM WARNING

Please note: If you receive a request for gift cards purporting to be from your pastor, parish, or the Bishop, *it is a scam and should be ignored.* If you aren't sure if an email or message is authentic, do not reply. Check with the person or parish using another method.

2026 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

\$14,706 OF \$34,667 RAISED TO DATE



Our parish goal is \$34,667. With your help, we can assure the continued support of many important programs that help thousands in our diocese each year; education of our children and seminary students, evangelization and Christian initiation, ongoing formation for our clergy, and more. We are blessed with much; let us be a blessing to others.



faith, hope, charity
 2026 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL



fe, esperanza, caridad
 2026 CAMPAÑA CATÓLICA ANUAL

La meta de nuestra parroquia es \$34,667. Con su ayuda podremos asegurar el apoyo continuo a muchos programas importantes que ayudan a miles cada año en nuestra diócesis; tales como la educación de nuestros niños y de los seminaristas, evangelización e iniciación cristiana, formación continua para nuestro clero y más. Hemos sido bendecidos con mucho, seamos nosotros una bendición para otros.

MASS SCHEDULE

English Weekdays - Monday thru Thursday at 12pm,
First Friday's at 5:30pm.

(Exposition and Holy Hour start at 10:30am followed by Rosary at 11:20am)

Spanish Weekday - Monday, Thursday and Friday at 7pm.

(Exposition and Holy Hour start at 5:30pm followed by Rosary at 6:20pm)

Wednesday- 6-7p - Holy Hour with Rosary.

Saturday- Vigil 5:00 pm; 7pm Spanish in Jesup.

Sunday- 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm (Spanish); 2:00pm Spanish in Jesup.

Confession- Weekdays during Holy Hour, Saturday 4:15-4:45pm & By Apt.



First Martyr Catholic Church
Hinesville, Ga

OCIA Classes Wednesdays: 7-8:30p in Social Hall
For Catholics and non-Catholics who wish to gain knowledge and information about the Catholic faith. The classes are also for those Catholic adults and high schoolers that have not completed their sacraments. The classes begin in September and will be completed by Easter.

Children's Religious Education

~Faith Formation~ Saint Stephen provides opportunities for each person to receive the Sacraments and grow in greater communion with our Lord. Classes are for 1st – 8th grades and they meet Sundays at 9a Sept. to May.

Baptism - For a child to be baptized, you must be attending Mass regularly, attend a Baptism class and fill out a registration form. Classes are held the last Sunday of every month at 1pm and must be completed prior to scheduling baptism date. One Godparent must be an active Catholic and attend class as well. A copy of the Child's Birth Certificate is needed at time of registration. Please contact the Office for scheduling.

Matrimony - Arrangements must be made at least 6 months in advance of the proposed date. Participation in a marriage preparation program is required. Couples contemplating marriage MUST meet with the priest before setting a date.

Anointing of the Sick - Fr. Estrada is offering Anointing of the Sick at First Friday's Mass at 5:30p.

Active Parishioner Status - Each year we receive many requests from parishioners to qualify for weddings, be godparents or sponsors. An active member is one who is properly registered with the Parish office, regularly gives offertory, attends parish activities when possible and most importantly faithfully attends Mass on Sunday's and Holy days of Obligation. Even though you attend Mass, if you are not registered with the Parish, we have no information about you and you may not be eligible to be Sponsors, Godparents, etc. While assessments of an inquirer's status will be made individually, the above are the main factors that will be considered in making that determination.

PARISH OFFICE IS OPEN MONDAY 9A-6P AND TUESDAY-THURSDAY 9A-2P

PASTOR

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