



# SAINT STEPHEN FIRST MARTYR



399 WOODLAND DR. HINESVILLE, GA 31313 | 912-876-4364 | 55FMCC399@GMAIL.COM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2026

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

THE SPIRIT OF GOD  
DESCENDING LIKE  
**A DOVE.**

MATTHEW 3:16



# St Stephen First Martyr

## Upcoming Events:

**Jan 16<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>** – 9 Days for Life Novena – Join us in prayer for Life. Copies of the Novena will be found in the Church or can be found online at [9daysforlife.com](http://9daysforlife.com).

**Jan 31<sup>st</sup> – Feb 1<sup>st</sup>** – Second Collection for the Building Fund.

**Jan 31<sup>st</sup> – 2p** Lourdes Virtual Pilgrimage in English – **Feb 1<sup>st</sup> – 2p** - Lourdes Virtual Pilgrimage in Spanish.

**Jan 31<sup>st</sup> – Feb 1<sup>st</sup>** – Building fund collection, second collection to support our Building Fund for general upkeep and maintenance of our buildings and grounds.

**Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> – 7p** - **Knights of Columbus Meeting** – Anyone interested in becoming a KOC, or existing members please attend the monthly meeting to discuss upcoming plans.

DATE	MASS TIME	<b>MASS+ INTENTIONS</b>
<b>Sat. 1/10</b>	5:00PM	<i>Pro Populo – For the Community</i>
<b>Sun. 1/11</b>	8:00AM	<i>†Soul of Pete Hinley ~Henry &amp; Ione Phillips</i>
	10:00AM	<i>†Soul of Zuriel Vasquez ~Jonathan Wolff</i>
	12:00PM	<i>Our Parish Community</i>
<b>Mon 1/12</b>	5:30PM	<i>Our Parish Community</i>
<b>Mon 1/12</b>	7:00PM	<i>Our Parish Community</i>
<b>Tues. 1/13</b>	12:00PM	<i>†Souls in Purgatory ~Gudron Poertner</i>
<b>Weds. 1/14</b>	12:00PM	<i>Our Parish Community</i>
<b>Thurs. 1/15</b>	12:00PM	<i>Our Parish Community</i>
<b>Thurs. 1/15</b>	7:00PM	<i>Our Parish Community</i>
<b>Sat. 1/17</b>	5:00PM	<i>†Souls of Thomas Allen Crowe, Eichelberger and Cutlip Families ~Dee Eichelberger</i>
<b>Sun. 1/18</b>	8:00AM	<i>Pro Populo – For the Community</i>
	10:00AM	<i>Our Parish Community</i>
	12:00PM	<i>Our Parish Community</i>



1/12- Margaret Chambers, Vielka Davis, Darian Hanna-Wilson, Sylvia Roberson

1/13- Mehmet Kocacilag, Nicole Michel

1/14- Ernest Clark

1/16- Rebecca Carroll, Colleen Hardin, Rita Johanson

1/18- Roscoe Phipps, Tracy Twyford



Joe & Pat Johnson, Gary Hubbard, Willie Crowe, Janice Robertson, Nancy Hill, Tom & Jeannine Wing, June Holt, Leslie Shaw, Stacy Fletcher, Sandra Powell, Joyce Elliott, Laurie Elliott, Doug Walker, Hettie Johnson, Dillion Bovinge, Summer Jones, Robert JoVan, Lounell Scott, David Weeks, Walter Helmick, Andre McCall, Nellie Orta, Angela Wheeler, Sara Wheeler, Merle Stroud, Renee Millner, Larry Harris, Dottie Cozier, Fred Hand, Iris Potett, Mary Huffman, Joan Rambach, Chambers Family, Jane Chatman, Gudrun Poertner, Cindy Gray, Ethin Nettle, Bonny Pecanak, Amy Smith.  
(Names remain on the list for 30 days unless notified)

## **The Baptism of the Lord: The Thirty Years of the Carpenter**

*"After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'"* (Mt 3:16-17).

### **WORD OF LIFE**

Just a few days after celebrating the mysteries of the Nativity of the Lord, the Church proposes Jesus' public life to the Christians. A public life that does not begin with the miracle at the wedding of Cana, but with the Baptism of the Lord in the Jordan. In a very short time, the liturgy takes us from the manger to maturity, just like in the movies. This has the inconvenience of making us forget what constituted the major part of Christ's life: the stage in Nazareth. Thus, we might run the risk of forgetting that Christ, with all the urgency He had to save humanity, spent thirty years "doing nothing." Actually, it is not that He did nothing, but that He lived without doing miracles—at least in public—and preaching. He was God, and therefore, He was Love also at this stage, although He remained hidden, letting time go by, a time that was precious in our eyes, and that we would surely have advised Him to use in another way. But, since God is wiser than we are, it is convenient for us to learn from Him and try to imitate Him, even in something as paradoxical as the hidden life in Nazareth. Curiously, to imitate Jesus in that long stage of His existence is very much closer to our reality.

For example, we imitate Him when we fulfill our professional duties, when we take care of our family, when we are the best we can be, whether as citizens, patients, youth, or retired. It is not within our reach to perform miracles, though we can ask for them, but we can live our normal and ordinary lives well. We can also become holy and do what is good without drawing attention toward ourselves.

Like Jesus.

**Purpose:** Fulfill your professional duties well. Attend to your obligations toward your family and society. Be aware that even your daily routine can be done out of love and with love.

## **Bautismo del Señor: Los treinta años del carpintero**

*"Apenas se bautizó Jesús, salió del agua; se abrió el cielo y vio que Espíritu de Dios bajaba como una paloma y se posaba sobre él. Y vino una voz del cielo que decía: Este es mi Hijo, el amado, mi predilecto"* (Mt 3, 16-17).

### **PALABRA DE VIDA**

Apenas unos días después de celebrar los misterios de la Navidad, la Iglesia propone a los cristianos la vida pública de Jesús. Vida pública que empieza no con el milagro de las bodas de Caná, sino con el bautismo del Señor en el Jordán. En muy poco tiempo, la liturgia nos hace pasar de la cuna a la madurez, como en las películas. Esto tiene el inconveniente de que nos hace olvidar lo que constituyó la mayor parte de la vida de Cristo: la etapa de Nazaret. De este modo se corre el riesgo de olvidar que Cristo, con toda la urgencia que tenía por salvar a la humanidad, estuvo treinta años "sin hacer nada". En realidad, no es que no hiciera nada, pero vivió sin hacer milagros —al menos públicos— y sin predicar. Era Dios y, por lo tanto, era amor también en esa etapa, a pesar de lo cual se mantuvo en la oscuridad, dejando pasar un tiempo que, a nuestros ojos, era precioso y que, seguramente, le habríamos aconsejado que aprovechara de otra manera. Pero, como Dios es más sabio que nosotros, nos conviene aprender de Él e intentar imitarle, también en algo tan paradójico como la vida oculta en Nazaret. Imitar a Jesús en esa larga etapa de su existencia está, curiosamente, muy a nuestro alcance. Le imitamos, por ejemplo, cumpliendo bien nuestras obligaciones profesionales, cuidando de nuestra familia, siendo buenos ciudadanos, siendo buenos enfermos, buenos jóvenes o buenos jubilados. No está a nuestro alcance hacer milagros —aunque sí pedirlos—, pero sí podemos vivir bien la vida normal y corriente que nos ha tocado vivir. También sin llamar la atención se puede ser santo y hacer el bien. Como Jesús.

**Propósito:** Cumplir bien nuestro trabajo profesional. Atender a nuestras obligaciones con la familia, con la sociedad. Ser conscientes de que incluso lo rutinario puede hacerse por amor y con amor.



**FRANCISCANS OF MARY - FRANCISCANOS DE MARIA**

Email: [information@franciscansofmary.org](mailto:information@franciscansofmary.org)

Website: <https://franciscanosdemaria.org/en>

Email: [consultas@frmaria.org](mailto:consultas@frmaria.org)

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.*



*Baptism makes us  
Children of God*



*El bautismo nos hace  
Hijos de Dios*





# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of justice,  
I have grasped you by the hand;  
I formed you, and set you  
as a covenant of the people,  
a light for the nations. (Is 42:6)

### Psalm:

The Lord will bless his people with peace. (Ps 29)

### Second Reading:

"In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.  
Rather, in every nation whoever fears him  
and acts uprightly  
is acceptable to him." (Acts 10:34-35)

### Gospel:

And a voice came from the heavens, saying,  
"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am  
well pleased." (Mt 3:17)

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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

John could not believe that Jesus would seek baptism from him, a lowly mortal man. But our God is a humble God. He does not fear our weakness. He extends his hand, saying, "It is fitting." So take his hand. Begin the work he has set out for you.

## Observances for the week of January 11, 2026

**Sunday:** The Baptism of the Lord  
**Tuesday:** St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church  
**Saturday:** St. Anthony, Abbot  
**Next Sunday:** 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



## Virtues, Explained!

Joy is the experience of achieving what we most desire — and what we most desire is love. God made us in love and for love, and so, in the same way that a flower seeks the sunlight, our souls seek the warmth of true, selfless love.

## Blessing for Baptismal Grace

Dear God,  
Through Baptism, You called and claimed us as Your own, chosen and loved.  
Pour Your blessing upon us as we remember our Baptism.  
Plant Your identity in our hearts.  
Help us to live as Your beloved.  
Amen.

## Readings for the week of January 11, 2026

### Sunday:

Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10/  
Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17

### Monday:

1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/  
Mk 1:14-20

### Tuesday:

1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sam 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/  
Mk 1:21-28

### Wednesday:

1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a,  
8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

### Thursday:

1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/  
Mk 1:40-45

### Friday:

1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/  
Mk 2:1-12

### Saturday:

1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/  
Mk 2:13-17

### Next Sunday:

Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40:2 and 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10/  
1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34



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The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for  
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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Apple ran a commercial not long ago called "Behind the Mac - Greatness." It shows artists and creators, such as Kendrick Lamar, Billie Eilish, and Lady Gaga, working behind their MacBooks. The narration says, "There's a certain kind of person who doesn't wait for greatness. They make it." It's a compelling message. There's beauty in using our gifts with passion and purpose. But there lies a hidden weight in that idea: If you are what you make, what happens when you can't anymore? When the project fails, the passion fades, or the spotlight moves on, where is greatness then?

Today's Gospel offers a differing vision of greatness. Jesus steps into the Jordan River. He hasn't preached, healed, or performed a single miracle. Then the heavens open, and the Father speaks: **"You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."** It's not a reward for success. It's not earned. Before he does anything "great," Jesus receives the greatness of his identity from the Father.

And so do you. At your baptism, God said the same thing over you: "You are my beloved." That is your true identity, not constructed or earned but received. When we see ourselves and others this way, everything changes for the better. We discover a greatness that can never be taken away.

This week, reflect on your baptism: look up the date, thank God for it, pray for those baptized with you, or visit the church where it happened. Let your identity be rooted there.

— Father John Muir





# You Are Invited

Lourdes Virtual Pilgrimage Experience<sup>®</sup>

*Saturday, January 31st*

**St. Stephen First Martyr  
Catholic Church**

**399 Woodland Drive  
Hinesville, GA 31313**

**2:00 pm**

- Touch the Grotto Rock
- Experience Lourdes Water
- Adoration & Benediction
- Rosary Procession

For more information  
call (912) 876-4364

Free Will Offering Graciously Accepted!

**A Plenary Indulgence Granted  
by Papal Decree**







# *Los invitamos*

## **Peregrinaje Virtual al Santuario de Lourdes®**

### *Domingo, 1 de Febrero, 2026*

**St. Stephen First Martyr  
Catholic Church**

**399 Woodland Drive  
Hinesville GA 31313**

**a las 2:00pm**

- Roca de la Gruta
- Agua de Lourdes
- Adoración & Bendición Eucarística
- Rosario completo en la iglesia

Para mayor información  
llamar (912) 876-4364

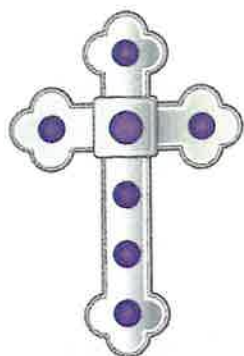
¡Ofrenda de libre voluntad aceptada con gracia!



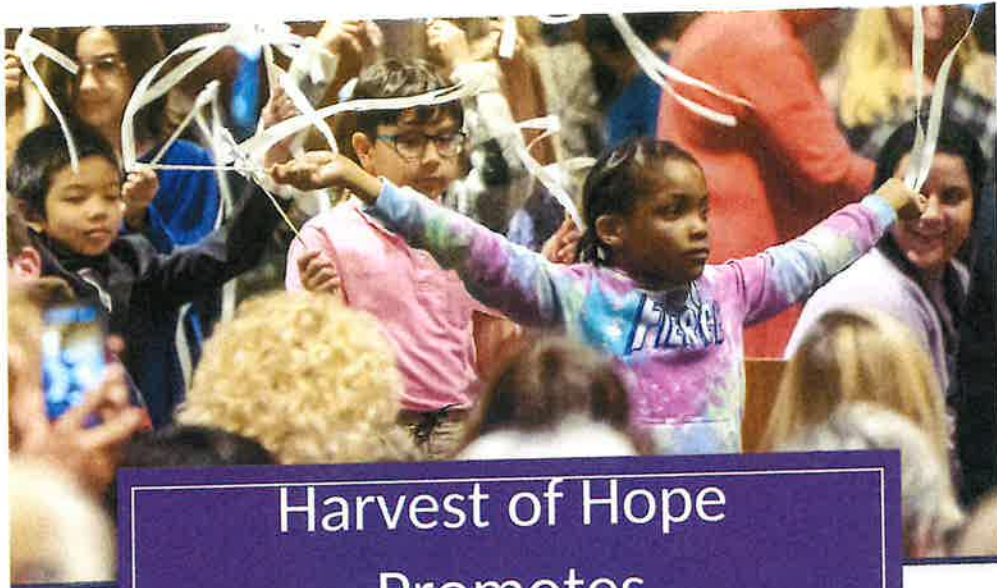
**Indulgencia Plenaria Otorgada  
por Decreto Papal**







**HARVEST  
of HOPE**  
**COSECHA de ESPERANZA**



**Harvest of Hope  
Promotes  
Tax Advantaged Giving**

**WE PRAY TOGETHER**

Heavenly Father, who in Your providence have brought us together at this time and in this place, we ask You to guide, inspire, and bless our Diocese of Savannah and the Harvest of Hope campaign.

Provide us, Your children, with the rich soil of faith, hope, and love, that the seeds we are planting now will bear abundant fruit for generations.

As we work together for the full coming of Your kingdom, O Lord, may we find a new way of belonging to You and to one another, rejoicing always in Your generosity.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Planting seeds for the future of  
the Diocese of Savannah*

Thank you to all who turned in their pledge card at Mass, mailed it to the diocese, or made a gift online. Please visit [diosav.org/hope](https://diosav.org/hope) for more information or to make your gift today.

**THE BENEFITS OF TAX ADVANTAGED GIVING**

**Gifts From An IRA**

An IRA owner, age 70 1/2 or older, can directly transfer up to \$108,000 per year to an eligible charity tax-free in 2025. This option can be used for distributions from IRAs, regardless of whether the owners itemize their deductions. To qualify, the funds must be transferred directly by the IRA trustee to the Harvest of Hope campaign. Distributed amounts may be excluded from the IRA owner's income, resulting in lower taxable income for the IRA owner.

**Gifts Of Stock**

Donors can use their broker/agent to transfer stock. If the stock has been held long-term (over one year), the donor does not have to pay capital gains tax on the stock and is allowed a tax deduction for the full value of the stock. Stock must first be transferred to the Harvest of Hope campaign before being liquidated. Ensure that the donor name and parish are provided on the check and on all paperwork to the diocese.

**To ensure our parish receives credit for an IRA gift or a stock transfer, please visit [diosav.org/hope](https://diosav.org/hope) and complete the relevant forms**

For more information, please contact our campaign director Christine Goodwin at 908-907-5769 or [cgoodwin@guidanceingiving.com](mailto:cgoodwin@guidanceingiving.com)



## *School of Gratitude*

*Father Estrada is hosting a School of Gratitude for Young Adults beginning Oct. 20th after 5:30p Mass and a SOG for Adults on Thursday's after 12pm Mass . Everyone is welcome to join!*

## *Escuela de Gratitud*

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



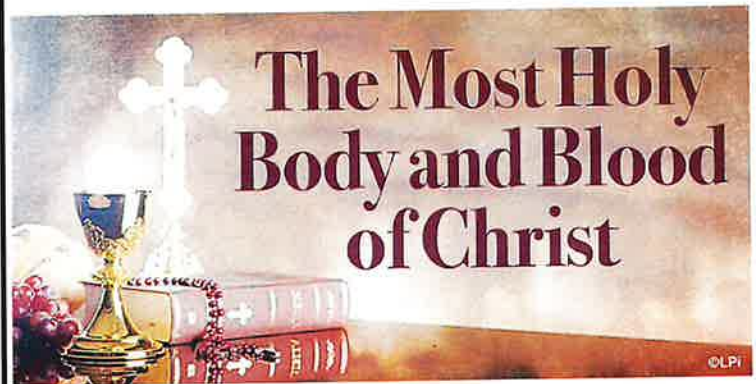
Thursdays 6-8:30pm  
Saint Stephen Social Hall




Jueves de 6 -8:30 pm  
Salón Social San Esteban

## ***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.



## **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.



## Linen Ministry

The Linen Ministry is looking for a few more parishioners to join the current members in washing the altar linen for a month-long period. With the current number of members, you would only have to wash the linen one to two times each year. We could really use some help. The new schedule will be published in January 2026.

If you would like to join this group, please contact the Parish Office or Wendy Farace (912-271-2051) to sign up.

## 2026 MACON MARCH FOR LIFE

January 23, 2026



With Bishop Parkes, the Diocese of Savannah, & the Kolbe Center

Register: [diosav.org/march-for-life](https://diosav.org/march-for-life)



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE of SAVANNAH

## GOLD and SILVER JUBILEE

Anniversary Mass

25<sup>th</sup> or 50<sup>th</sup> wedding  
anniversaries in 2026

February 15, 2026, 1:30 pm  
Savannah Cathedral

RSVP by January 31: 912.201.4068  
[diosav.org/gold-and-silver](https://diosav.org/gold-and-silver)



## Misa de Aniversario de BODAS de ORO y PLATA

25<sup>o</sup> o 50<sup>o</sup> aniversario  
de bodas en 2026

15 de febrero de 2026, 1:30 pm  
Catedral de Savannah

RSVP antes del 31 de enero: 912.201.4068  
[diosav.org/gold-and-silver](https://diosav.org/gold-and-silver)



Are YOU Ready to Fight Against Cancer???

## JOIN ST STEPHEN RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM

To Join or Donate to our Team

<https://main.acevents.org/goto/ststephenhinesville>



Any Cancer Survivors  
or if you are going through Cancer  
Contact Marsha for a Free Survivor's  
Tshirt



Relay for Life Liberty County  
May 1st 2026

ANY QUESTIONS TEXT OR EMAIL MARSHA CLIFTON  
912-737-1344 OR [LOOKYOURBESTWITHME@YAHOO.COM](mailto:LOOKYOURBESTWITHME@YAHOO.COM)

9 DAYS  
FOR LIFE

pray to protect  
**HUMAN LIFE**  
JANUARY 16-24

9daysforlife.

9DÍAS  
POR  
LA VIDA

reza por la protección de la  
**VIDA HUMANA**  
ENERO 16 AL 24

9daysforlife.com



# PARISH SUPPORT

## DONATIONS

### Weekly Offertory – Dec 28th

Min. of \$10,000 needed weekly to operate

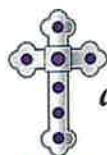
Offertory	\$4,786
Building Fund	\$136
Online Giving	\$1,054
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,976</b>

### 3 great ways to support our Parish

1. **USE THE ENVELOPES** Located in the Pews.
2. **TEXT 'GIVE' TO 912-551-5553**
3. **GIVE ONLINE**—Scan QR Code or go to:  
<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/ststephenhinesville>



**Are You Certified to Volunteer?** VIRTUS training; background check; code of conduct. If you would like to volunteer in any way within the church go to [virtusonline.org](http://virtusonline.org) to register. (912) 201-4074.



HARVEST  
of HOPE  
COSECHA de ESPERANZA

*So far we have been given \$32,732 towards our Harvest of Hope goal, with an additional \$74,000 pledged to be paid to our goal. This has us at 40% of our goal for the Harvest of Hope, we encourage everyone to make a pledge for the upcoming 3 years to help us reach our overall goal of \$247,268.00.*

### Active Parishioner Status

*Each year we receive many requests from parishioners to qualify for weddings, be godparents or sponsors for the Sacrament of Confirmation, Communion and Baptism. When a request is made, we must be able to verify that a person is an "active member" of St. Stephen's Parish.*

*An active member is one who 1) Is properly registered with the Parish office and gives regular to the offertory through envelopes or online giving. 2) 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 are not eligible to be Sponsors, God-parents, 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. Please be sure to register with the office and keep your information up to date! You can easily send an email to [ssfmcc399@gmail.com](mailto:ssfmcc399@gmail.com) to make changes.*

**Parish Membership:** Whether you are a longtime resident or have recently arrived in our parish -Welcome! Please use the form below to register or update your information. You may place this form in the collection basket. (We may call you for additional information.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_



## Parish Staff

### **Pastor:**

Fr. Eder Estrada, FM  
[eedstrada@diosav.org](mailto:eedstrada@diosav.org)

### **Parochial Vicar:**

Fr. Modeste Seloukou, FM

### **Deacon:**

Doug Delzeith  
[ddelzeith@yahoo.com](mailto:ddelzeith@yahoo.com)  
(912) 977-5278

### **Sacristan:**

Sam Beiter  
[beiterri@yahoo.com](mailto:beiterri@yahoo.com)

### **Office Manager:**

Annette Miller

### **Office Assistant:**

Diana Young

### **Parish Catechetical Leader:**

Berta Ganaway  
[saintstephenfaithformation@gmail.com](mailto:saintstephenfaithformation@gmail.com)

### **Office Hours:**

Mon: 9AM-6PM

Tues-Thurs: 9AM-2PM

### **Gift Shop Hours:**

TBD

SACRED GARDEN  
GIFT SHOP  
ST. STEPHEN



[ssfmcc399@gmail.com](mailto:ssfmcc399@gmail.com)



912-876-4364 (office)

912-876-3150 (fax)



[ststephenshinesville.com](http://ststephenshinesville.com)

## Mass Times

**English Weekday Masses-** Monday at 5:30p.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday weekly at 12pm and First Friday's at 12pm.  
(Exposition and Holy Hour start at 10:30am followed by Rosary at 11:20am)

**Spanish Weekday Masses-** Monday and Thursday weekly at 7pm and First Friday's 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.

### **Bible Study**

Every Tuesday from 10-11:30am all are welcome to come to the social hall for Bible Study discerning on the liturgy for the upcoming week.

### **OCIA Classes Wednesday Evenings: 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. For additional information please call the office.

### **Religious Education**

Saint Stephen the First Martyr Catholic Church provides opportunities for each person to receive the Sacraments and grow in greater communion with our Lord. Classes are available starting with 1<sup>st</sup> graders and meet Sundays at 9a Sept. through May.

### **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.

### **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.

### **Anointing of the Sick**

Fr. Estrada is offering Anointing of the Sick during the First Friday's Mass at 12p. If needed at another time please contact the office or Father Estrada directly.

### **Prayer Ministry**

The Prayer Ministry provides prayer support to our parishioners and to the community. 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](mailto:sshprayers@gmail.com)

### **Active Parishioner Status**

Each year we receive many requests from parishioners to qualify for weddings, be godparents or sponsors for the Sacrament of Confirmation, Communion and Baptism. 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 are not 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.