

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

HIS FACE SHONE LIKE
THE SUN.

— MATTHEW 17:2 —



SAINT STEPHEN FIRST MARTYR



399 WOODLAND DR, HINESVILLE, GA 31313 | 912-876-4364 | SSFMCC399@GMAIL.COM

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026

MASS INTENTIONS



† Host and Wine in Memory of Michael Carreker †

Sat. 2/28	5:00PM	†Soul of Belen Rico ~Martina Bouchard
Sun. 3/1	8:00AM	†Soul of Monica Gonzalez ~Irizarry Family
	10:00AM	†Soul of Doris Spurgeon ~Bonny Carreker
	12:00PM	Pro Populo ~ For the Community
Mon 3/2	5:30PM	Our Parish Community
Mon 3/2	7:00PM	Healing for Ana Rivera ~Gladys Rivera
Tues. 3/3	12:00PM	Jeromino Almanza 3 rd Birthday ~Eduardo Almanza
Weds. 3/4	12:00PM	†Soul of Michael Carreker ~Bonny Carreker
Thurs. 3/5	12:00PM	Our Parish Community
Thurs. 3/5	7:00PM	Our Parish Community
Fri. 3/6	7:00PM	Our Parish Community
Sat. 3/7	5:00PM	†Souls of Frank Miller & Ralph Schnur ~Miller Family
Sun. 3/8	8:00AM	†Soul of Charlotte Grimes ~Bonny Carreker
	10:00AM	†Soul of Octavio Cherigo ~Martina Bouchard
	12:00PM	Pro Populo ~ For the Community

Prayer REQUESTS

Please Pray for the Sick – Por Favor Oren por los Enfermos

Peticiones DE ORACION

Sara J. Wheeler, Joe & Pat Johnson, Gary Hubbard, Janice Robertson, Nancy Hill, Tom & Jeannine Wing, June Holt, Leslie Shaw, Stacy Fletcher, Sandra Powell, Joyce Elliott, Laurie Elliott, Doug Walker, Hettie Johnson, Dillion Bovinger, Summer Jones, Robert JoVan, Lounell Scott, David Weeks, Walter Helmick, Andre McCall, Nellie Orta, Angela 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 Pecenek, Amy Smith.

May they be touched by the healing hand of the Lord.

If you are ill or know someone who is and you want to have them included in this prayer, please contact the office.

Save THE Date!

Feb. 21st – March 8th – FAM Fundraiser

Feb. 23rd, March 2nd & 9th – 6:30-8:30p - Lent Retreat

Every Friday of Lent there is a Fish Fry, Adoration and Stations of the Cross. (Please see full schedule within the bulletin)

March 1st – Relay for Life Meeting at 1:30p in Social Hall, if interested in joining the team please attend.

March 15th – Mandatory Usher and Lector Training in the Church at 9am.



3/2- David Paulk Sr.

3/3- Graciela Chihuahua

3/4- Roseanne Chihuahua

3/5- Martina Covey, Jamar Wells

3/6- Shem Wildman

3/7- John Tanny

2nd Sunday of Lent: Remember the Moments of Light

“After six days, Jesus took Peter, James, and John, his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light.” (Mt 17:1-2)

WORD OF LIFE

We all have felt enlightened by God on occasion. Sometimes, it might have been through an illness which made us reflect on the type of life we were living, as happened to St. Ignatius or St. Francis. At other times, a friend or perhaps a priest might have influenced us and helped us realize where our true happiness lies. It might even be that God has made Himself present in a special way in our lives through some extraordinarily difficult time or, on the contrary, through a succession of joys. It is important for us to realize that those “moments of light,” those moments in which we felt God so close, are not only to be enjoyed the moment they occur but also are to be kept in our memory and recalled when the opposite moments occur: those of darkness, of pain, and of the experience of God's silence. Through His Transfiguration on Mount Tabor, Christ wanted to prepare His friends with moments of light for those moments of the cross.

This week, by exercising our memory, let's discover what the good moments have been in our lives: at work, in our marriage, with our children, with our parents, with our friends, with the religious group to which we belong, with the Church, and with God. Let's evoke those old treasures to illuminate, with their light, the darkness of the present. Let's do justice to God by thanking Him for the good we have received so that we do not focus only on our problems.

Purpose: In good times, remember to be more objective, more just in your relationship with others, and especially with God. This way, you will have fewer crises.



FRANCISCANS OF MARY - FRANCISCANOS DE MARIA

Email: information@franciscansofmary.org

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

Email: consultas@frmaria.org

TV: <https://magnificat.tv/>

I Domingo de Cuaresma: Acordaos de los momentos de luz

“Jesús tomó consigo a Pedro, a Santiago y a su hermano Juan y se los llevó aparte a una montaña alta. Se transfiguró delante de ellos y su rostro resplandecía como el sol y sus vestidos se volvieron blancos como la luz” (Mt 17, 1-2)

PALABRA DE VIDA

Todos, en alguna ocasión, nos hemos sentido iluminados por Dios. En ocasiones habrá sido por medio de una enfermedad, que nos habrá hecho reflexionar sobre el tipo de vida que estábamos llevando, como le pasó a San Ignacio o a San Francisco. En otras ocasiones habrá influido un amigo o quizá un sacerdote, los cuales nos habrán ayudado a darnos cuenta de dónde está la verdadera felicidad.. Puede ser incluso que Dios se haya hecho presente de modo especial en nuestra vida a través de algún momento extraordinariamente difícil o, por el contrario, mediante una sucesiva serie de alegrías. Es importante que nos demos cuenta de que esos "momentos de luz", esos momentos en que hemos sentido a Dios tan cerca, no son sólo para disfrutarlos en el instante en que se producen, sino para guardarlos en la memoria y hacer uso de ellos cuando se presentan los momentos contrarios: los de oscuridad, los del dolor, los de la experiencia del silencio de Dios. Eso fue lo que Cristo quiso hacer en el Tabor con sus amigos, mediante la Transfiguración: prepararles con momentos de luz para los momentos de cruz.

Descubramos esta semana, a base de ejercitar la memoria, cuáles son o han sido los momentos buenos en nuestra vida: en el matrimonio, con los hijos, en el trabajo, con la Iglesia, con los amigos, con los padres, con el grupo religioso al que se pertenece, con Dios. Evoquemos esos viejos tesoros para iluminar, con su luz, las oscuridades del presente. Hagamos justicia a Dios a base de darle gracias por el bien recibido, para no fijarnos sólo en los problemas que ahora tenemos.

Propósito: Recordar los buenos momentos para ser más objetivos, más justos, en nuestra relación con los demás, especialmente con Dios. Así tendremos menos crisis.



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.



Lenten Schedule

Feb 18th: Ash Wednesday we will have Mass at 12p and 7p (Bilingual).

Starting Feb 20th and all Friday's through March 27th:
K of C Fish Fry Every Friday 4p- 7p (except for Good Friday).
6p Bilingual Stations of the Cross.

7p Bilingual Mass.

8p-12a: Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions. *

8p Rosary in English, 9p Rosary in Latin, 10p Rosary in Spanish and at 11p Meditation Hour on the readings of the Lord's Passion.

Holy Week Schedule

Holy Thursday Mass will be at 6p.

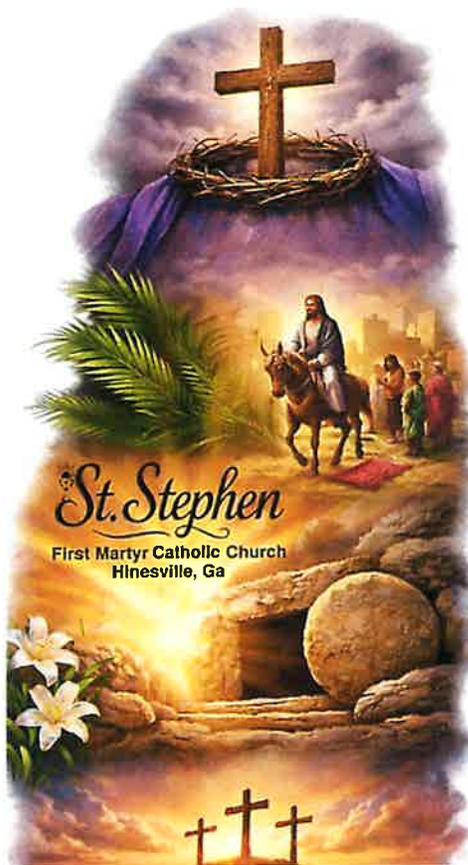
Good Friday 2p Stations of the Cross and 3p Celebration of the Passion of the Lord.

Easter Saturday rehearsal and set up at 9a, Vigil Mass at 10p.

Easter Sunday Mass at 10a and 12p ONLY.

* Exposition of the Most Holy Eucharist will take place after Mass and last until Midnight. We will have sign up sheets in the narthex as 2 adorers are needed per hour that Jesus is exposed.

Jesus wants us to spend time with Him, this is a perfect time to do so.



Father Estrada invites you to

The Prayer Encounter

Feb 21 • 5pm Mass
6pm The Prayer Encounter

An evening to Encounter Christ through Holy Mass and Prayer.

Followed by fellowship in the Social Hall.

Come and be renewed as you grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ.

St. Stephen
First Martyr Catholic Church
Hinesville, Ga



All parishioners are invited to attend a Prayer Encounter with Father Estrada on February 21, 2026 after the 5:00 PM Mass. The focus of this Encounter will be on prayer, how to pray, prayers common to our Catholic faith and how you can build an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer. Following the Encounter, there will be a small social in the parish hall. So, come, learn how you can grow your relationship with Jesus Christ and mingle with the St. Stephen's Community.

St. Stephen

First Martyr Catholic Church
Hinesville, Ga



THE COLORS OF THE CROSS

A RETREAT GUIDE FOR LENT

by Fr. John Bartunek, I.C., S.Th.D.
RCSpirituality.org

Dates: February 23rd, March 2nd & 9th

Time: 6:30pm





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.



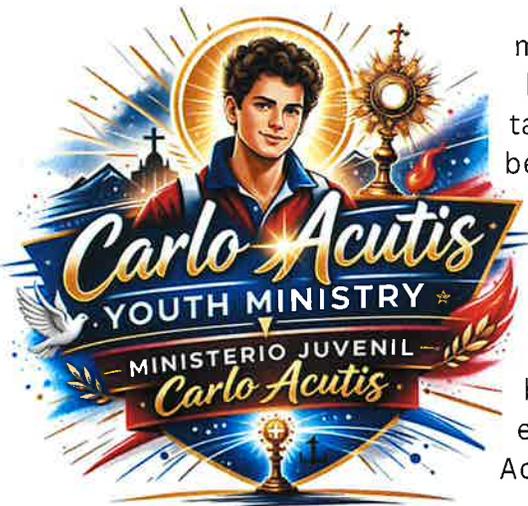
Grief Support Ministry

—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 Young Adults after 5:30p Mass Monday's and a SOG for Adults on Thursday's after 12pm Mass . Everyone is welcome to join!



Escuela de Gratiitud

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



Respect Life is a ministry that respects life from conception to death. Life is a gift from God to be valued in every stage of life! **During our “FAM” goods drive Feb. 21st - March 8th**, support life by helping new mothers with necessary items for their babies. Return goods and monetary donations by March 8th.
Thank you!



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.



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 March 14th from 11a-2p and will be Easter themed. You can always work on your current project also.



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.



Our local CCW is a part of The National Council of Catholic Women which acts through its members to support, empower and educate all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership and service. Stayed tuned for the next CCW event. It will be open to current members and anyone interested in becoming a member. For more information on CCW you can contact Betsy at betsystewart@gmail.com



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 by the gift shop 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!

Feb.21-March 8th Goods Drive for FAM

Family Advancement is a Family Ministry in Macon we've supported for 26 years. It is a Diocesan program helping young families become successful. As part of our ALMS-Giving for Lent, we will collect items needed for New Mother's first 3 weeks of Motherhood.

Please provide Only the following items:

- Diapers size newborn, 1 and 2
- Diaper wipes including sensitive wipes
- Baby towels and/or washcloths
- Baby shampoo and/or body wash
- Diaper rash cream
- Onesies in preemie and newborn sizes



Or make a Financial Donation using the self-addressed Envelopes to FAM found in the Narthax. No donation is too small to help a young family in need!

Return goods NLT March 8th to the bin in the Narthex. or order on-line/ Mail directly:

Family Advancement Ministries
538 Orange St.
Macon, Ga. 31201

Last year, we sent 160 lbs. of goods/ \$2100 in Financial Donations. Thank you as always for your Wonderful support!
---Respect Life Ministry

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.



Join the Fun Team Planning Meeting Sunday, March 1st 1:30-2:30

in the Social Hall
Meet Current Team Members
Join or Donate to the Team

Find out more about what Relay For Life is and how Relay supports Cancer Research and Patient Services



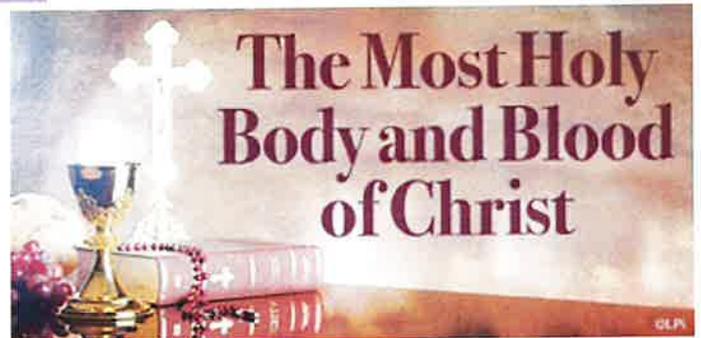
Mark Your Calendar

Team Fundraiser

Dine in*Takeout*Delivery
March 3, 2026
5PM-8PM
HUEY MAGOO'S

A Portion of ALL Sales will be donated to
St Stephen Relay For Life Team

Questions text Marsha Clifton 912-737-1344
or email mchbbd@yahoo.com



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.

Parish Stewardship

THANK YOU FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP

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



<u>Weekly Offertory - Feb 15th</u> Min. of \$10,000 needed weekly	
Offertory	\$4,013
Building Fund	\$37
Online Giving	\$1,150
Total	\$5,200

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.

Second Collection: Our Building Fund collection is the First weekend of every month.

The next collection is April 11th and 12th.



faith, hope, charity
2026 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

The Annual Catholic Appeal will begin this weekend. 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.



fe, esperanza, caridad
2026 CAMPAÑA CATÓLICA ANUAL

La Campaña Católica Anual empezará el fin de semana. 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.



Our Harvest of Hope overall goal is \$247,268.00 So far we have received \$45,979, with an additional \$91,021 pledged to be paid by the end of the campaign. This has us at 55% 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!



VIRTUS
Protecting God's Children

PROMISE
To Protect



Pledge To HEAL

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.

Safe Environment is a Ministry, through and through, because it ensures GRACE is prevalent where Child Protection abides.



Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

I will make of you a great nation,
and I will bless you;
I will make your name great,
so that you will be a blessing. (Gn 12:2)

Psalm:

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you. (Ps 33)

Second Reading:

Bear your share of hardship for the gospel
with the strength that comes from God.
He saved us and called us to a holy life. (2 Tm 1:8-9)

Gospel:

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother,
and led them up a high mountain by themselves.
And he was transfigured before them;
his face shone like the sun. (Mt 17:1-2)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

“Go forth,” God told Abram. We hear that message again in the Transformation: go forth. We cannot always remain where we are comfortable. We cannot always remain where things are simple. We must go forth.

Observances for the week of March 1, 2026

- Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Lent
Tuesday: St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin
Wednesday: St. Casimir
Saturday: Sts. Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs
Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Lent;
Daylight Saving Time begins

Readings for the week of March 1, 2026

Sunday:

Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22/
2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9

Monday:

Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/
Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday:

Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and
23/Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday:

Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16/
Mt 20:17-28

Thursday:

Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 16:19-31

Friday:

Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17,
18-19, 20-21/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday:

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10,
11-12/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Next Sunday:

Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 5:1-2,
5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a,
40-42



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St. Stephen

**First Martyr Catholic Church
Hinesville, Ga**

English Weekday Masses- Monday at 5:30p.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday weekly at 12pm and First Friday's at 5:30pm.

(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.

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.

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 available 1st – 8th grade 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 during the First Friday's Mass at 12p. If needed at another time, please contact the office or Father Estrada directly.

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.

Parish Office is Open Monday 9a-6p and Tuesday-Thursday 9a-2p

Pastor: Fr. Eder Estrada, FM eestrada@diosav.org

Deacon: Doug Delzeith ddelzeith@yahoo.com

Office Manager: Annette Miller

ssfmcc399@gmail.com

912-876-4364

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Modeste Seloukou, FM

Sacristan: Sam Beiterr beiterrl@yahoo.com

Office Assistant: Diana Young

Parish Catechetical Leader: Berta Ganaway

(912)312-4174