



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

JESUS

HIMSELF DREW
NEAR AND WALKED
WITH THEM.

LUKE 24:15



SAINT STEPHEN FIRST MARTYR



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

SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2026

MASS INTENTIONS



Sat. 4/18	5:00PM	†Soul of Linda Greathouse ~Normita Balayout
Sun. 4/19	8:00AM	†Soul of Corporal John Rivera ~Ralph Miller & family
	10:00AM	Special Intentions for Bella's Mom ~Bella
	12:00PM	Pro Populo ~ For the Community
Mon 4/20	5:30PM	Our Parish Community
Mon 4/20	7:00PM	Healing for the Rivera and Albaladejo Family ~Gladys Rivera
Tues. 4/21	12:00PM	Healing for Kathleen Higgs ~Helen & Bill Walter
Weds. 4/22	12:00PM	†Souls of Bug and Janette Paulk ~Harriet & David Paulk
Thurs. 4/23	12:00PM	Our Parish Community
Thurs. 4/23	7:00PM	Our Parish Community
Sat. 4/25	5:00PM	†Soul of Willie Crowe ~Maria Crowe
Sun. 4/26	8:00AM	†Soul of Dolores Castro ~Lemapu Family
	10:00AM	Healing for Mary Denham ~Bonnie Carreker
	12:00PM	Pro Populo ~ For the Community

Prayer REQUESTS

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

Peticiones DE ORACION

Susan Marie, Jimmy Marchini, John H., Richard and Christine Williams, David Weeks, 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 Pecenak, Amy Smith.



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



Save THE Date!

April 19th – Relay for Life Meeting 2:30pm in Social Hall

April 25th – Prayer Encounter – 6-9pm in Social Hall (Please note new date!)

April 25-26th – Please support our Relay for Life team with cash/check donations after all the Masses!

May 1st- Relay for Life Walk, 6-10pm at the Liberty County Recreation Center, 607 Oglethorpe Hwy, Hinesville, GA.

May 2nd – SVdP Fundraising Auction 6pm in Social Hall. More details to come!



4/22- Sonia Andes, Jeffrey Elkins, Liberty Smith

4/23- Kasey Forsell, Alexandra Japa Cabrera de Dorgilles

4/24- Jose Batista

4/25- Christian Vega, Edward Wing

4/26- Nadine Baluyot, Mayra Cardona, Allison Fischer

3rd Sunday of Easter: Do Not Cast Away Christ

*“And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.”
(Lk 24:15-16)*

WORD OF LIFE

According to Matthew, the Lord did not leave His Real Presence linked to the Eucharist alone. He also wanted to stay with us through another singular “substance”: reciprocal love. In fact, He linked His presence to unity among His disciples: “Where two or more are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” (Mt 18:20) That is why the two disciples who fled from Jerusalem on the way to Emmaus, despite their cowardice and lack of faith, carried with them the presence of Christ, for they loved one another and were united in the name of the Lord. However, they did not know it and therefore did not recognize it.

This can also happen to us. It is possible that we do not even realize that the Lord is present in our household, that we cast Him away whenever we confront each other, or when there is tension or violence. At times, this occurs for ridiculous, trivial, and egotistical reasons. We cast away Jesus whenever we break our unity, whenever reciprocal love disappears. On the other hand, we invite Jesus to stay among us whenever we love our neighbor as He did and for love of Him. The Lord loved us as only God could and with a love that included forgiveness and generosity.

We can also drive Christ away when we believe that He has abandoned us either because we are going through a bad time or we do not realize His presence and as a result, do not appreciate it. Even if we do not feel Christ near us, we should not doubt His presence or His love.

Purpose: Analyze your communal relationships (family, friends, co-workers etc.) to see if you are behaving in such a way that the Lord is present, to see if there is unity.



FRANCISCANS OF MARY - FRANCISCANOS DE MARIA

Email: information@franciscansofmary.org

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

Email: consultas@frmaria.org

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

III Domingo de Pascua: No eches de lado a Cristo

“Mientras conversaban y discutían, Jesús en persona se acercó y se puso a caminar con ellos. Pero sus ojos no eran capaces de reconocerle” (Lc 24, 14)

PALABRA DE VIDA

El Señor, según nos cuenta San Mateo no dejó sólo su presencia real ligada a la Eucaristía. También quiso quedarse con nosotros a través de otra "sustancia" singular: el amor y el amor recíproco. Efectivamente, Él ligó su presencia a la unidad entre sus discípulos: "Donde dos o más están unidos en mi nombre, allí estoy yo en medio de ellos" (Mt 18, 20). Por eso los dos discípulos que huían de Jerusalén camino de Emaús, a pesar de su cobardía y de su falta de fe, llevaban con ellos la presencia de Cristo, pues se querían y estaban unidos en el nombre del Señor. Sin embargo, no lo sabían y por eso no lo reconocían.

También a nosotros nos puede pasar lo mismo. Es posible que no nos demos cuenta de que el Señor está en nuestro hogar y que le expulsemos de allí cuando nos enfrentamos unos a otros, cuando hay violencia o tensiones. A veces, con mucha frecuencia, eso se produce por naderías, por insignificancias, por puro egoísmo. Echamos a Jesús de nuestro lado cuando rompemos la unidad, cuando desaparece el amor recíproco. Le invitamos a que esté entre nosotros, por el contrario, cuando amamos al prójimo en nombre del Señor, como amó el Señor y por el Señor. Y el Señor amó con una motivación religiosa - por Dios- y con un amor que incluía el perdón y la generosidad.

También podemos echar de nuestro lado a Cristo, o al menos no darnos cuenta de su presencia y por lo tanto no valorarla, cuando consideramos que Él nos ha abandonado por el hecho de estar pasando dificultades. Aunque no sintamos a Cristo, no debemos dudar ni de su presencia ni de su amor.

Propósito: Analiza tus relaciones comunitarias (familia, amigos, trabajo...), para ver si te estás comportando de modo que el Señor esté presente, para ver si hay unidad.



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.





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.



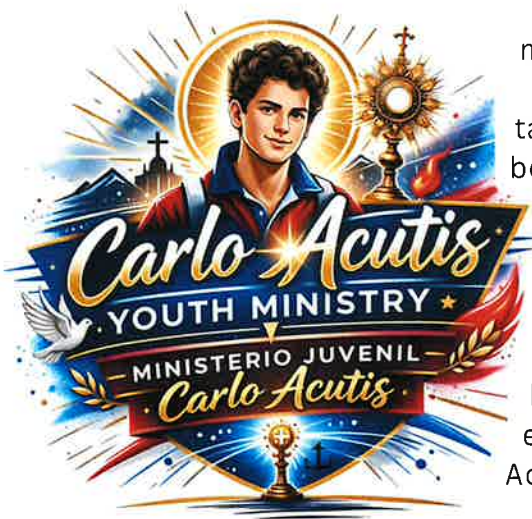
Grief Support Ministry

—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 Gratitude

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! Supporting Life, through works, was reflected with our FAM Campaign.

Sacred Garden GIFT SHOP

St. Stephen First Martyr Catholic Church
Hinesville, Georgia



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 May 16th from 11a-2p and will be a Brunch theme and craft will be a button necklace. 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



Next Red Wagon Weekend is May 16th and 17th!

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!

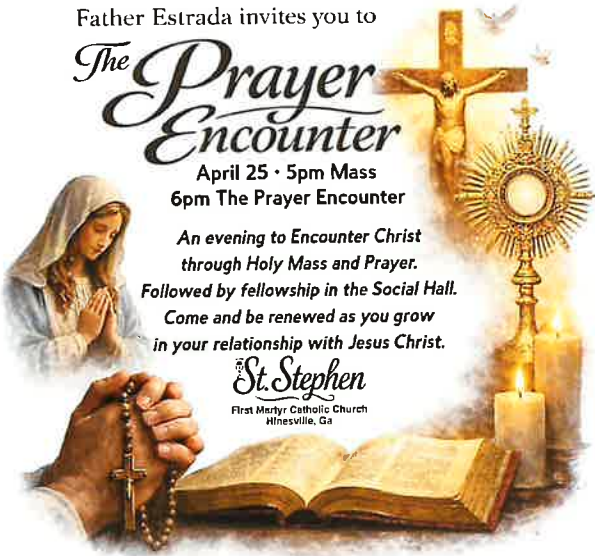
Father Estrada invites you to

The Prayer Encounter

April 25 • 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



Saint Vincent de Paul

CHARITY AUCTION

Saturday, May 2

6:00 PM

Church Social Hall



Join us for fun, food, and a mission that matters!

Helping neighbors in need — one bid at a-time



Donation Drop-Off

Accepted in the Social Hall by SVDP members

Wednesday, April 29 — 10 AM-3 PM

Thursday, April 30 — 2 PM-7 PM

Friday, May 1 — 10 AM-3 PM

SUPPORT OUR RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM

Donate After Masses
April 25th-26th

Together we can
make a difference!



Please join us in Celebrating these special Sacraments and support our Youth who are receiving them!

Confirmation

Join Us for the Sacrament of Confirmation

MAY 6TH | 6:00 PM



First Communion

Join Us for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion

MAY 9TH | 10 AM





Join the Fun
LAST Team Meeting
Sunday, April 19th
2:30-3:30

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

A table will be set up outside church
 after all masses April 25th-26th
 for Survivor Dinner- sign ups
 Donations will be collected

Information provided about Relay For Life



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



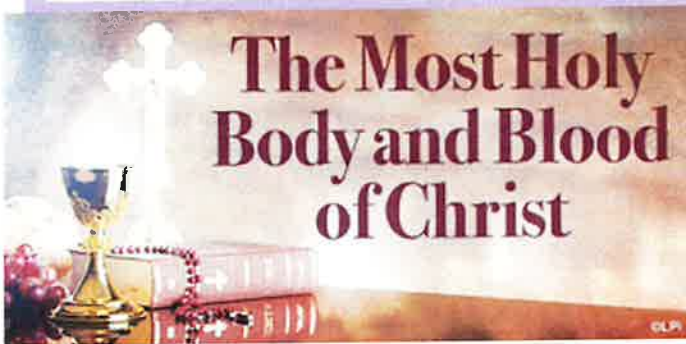
What is Relay? It's the national fundraising movement for the American Cancer Society, where teamwork and community spirit make a significant difference. Cancer is a challenge that has touched all of our lives in one way or another. Whether it's a family member, a friend or a personal battle, the heartbreaking impact of cancer touches everyone. That's why we come together.

Why join our team? One of the most powerful ways you can contribute is by joining St Stephen Team to become part of a collective force dedicated to making a change.

Why donate? Every contribution, no matter the size, helps! 81 cents of every dollar raised goes towards research and patient resources, (15 cents goes into fundraising efforts) only 4 cents goes towards administration!

What if I'm a Cancer Survivor? Join us and our community of local survivors as a testament to hope and resilience. On May 1, 2026, before our relay event we have a spectacular Survivor's Dinner, where every survivor and their caregiver are welcome to join the celebration and feel cherished.

Are You Ready to Join the Movement to End Cancer? Together, we can make a difference. We know we can count on you for prayers to one day end cancer for the prosperity of future generations, Every bit of involvement counts and we know we can count on your support.



The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

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.

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.

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

<u>Weekly Offertory – April 5th Easter Week</u> Min. of \$10,000 needed weekly	
Offertory	\$12,433
Building Fund	\$2,691
Online Giving	\$1,438
Total	\$16,562

Scan the QR code to Give Now!



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 May 2nd and 3rd.




faith, hope, charity
2026 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

The 2026 Annual Catholic Appeal has begun. 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 2026 Campaña Católica Anual ha comenzado. 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 \$48,123, with an additional \$89,594 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

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

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.



Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"Exalted at the right hand of God,
he received the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father
and poured him forth, as you see and hear." (Acts 2:33)

Psalm:

Lord, you will show us the path of life. (Ps 16)
Or Alleluia.

Second Reading:

He was known before the foundation of the world
but revealed in the final time for you. (1 Pt 1:20)

Gospel:

Then they said to each other,
"Were not our hearts burning within us
while he spoke to us on the way and opened the
Scriptures to us?" (Lk 24:32)

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Readings for the week of April 19, 2026

Sunday:

Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2 and 5, 7-8,
9-10, 11/1 Pt 1:17-21/Lk 24:13-35

Monday:

Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30/
Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday:

Acts 7:51-8:1a/ Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and
8a, 17 and 21ab/Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday:

Acts 8:1b-8/ Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a/
Jn 6:35-40

Thursday:

Acts 8:26-40/ Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20/
Jn 6:44-51

Friday:

Acts 9:1-20/ Ps 117:1bc, 2/Jn 6:52-59

Saturday:

1 Pt 5:5b-14/ Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17/
Mk 16:15-20

Next Sunday:

Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/
1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10

Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Like Cleopas, we make our way
through this world with weary feet and
disappointed hearts. Christ falls into step
beside us. He can open our eyes. Will we
let him?

Observances for the week of April 19, 2026

- Sunday:** 3rd Sunday of Easter
- Tuesday:** St. Anselm, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Wednesday:** *Administrative Professionals' Day; Earth Day*
- Thursday:** St. George, Martyr; St. Adalbert, Bishop and Martyr
- Friday:** St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr;
Arbor Day
- Saturday:** St. Mark, Evangelist
- Next Sunday:** 4th Sunday of Easter;
World Day of Prayer for Vocations



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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