



SAINT STEPHEN FIRST MARTYR

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



SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2026



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ANOTHER ADVOCATE
TO BE WITH YOU
ALWAYS.

— JOHN 14:16 —

MASS INTENTIONS



Sat. 5/09	5:00PM	Special Intentions for Watson Dorgilles
Sun. 5/10	8:00AM	†Soul of Beatrice Bellisle ~Diana Young
	10:00AM	†Souls of Jane Asanoma, Rosalina Edrosa and Josephine Mantanona ~Stephen & Remy Edrosa
	12:00PM	†Souls of Connie Edrosa, Maria Edrosa-Magbanua and Joaquina Meno ~Stephen & Remy Edrosa
Mon 5/11	5:30PM	Our Parish Community
Mon 5/11	7:00PM	Our Parish Community
Tues. 5/12	12:00PM	†Souls of Bobby Gee & Mary jo Gee ~David & Harriet Paulk
Weds. 5/13	12:00PM	†Soul of Gerald Poertner ~Gudrun Poertner
Thurs. 5/14	12:00PM	†Souls of Eunice Johanson & Libby Cole ~Eric & Rita Johanson
Thurs. 5/14	6:00PM	Healing for Berta Ganaway ~Trevor & Amy Smith
Thurs. 5/14	7:30PM	Our Parish Community
Sat. 5/16	5:00PM	†Soul of Willie Crowe ~Maria Crowe
Sun. 5/17	8:00AM	†Soul of Ambrosine Phillips ~Henry & Ione Phillips
	10:00AM	†Soul of Johnny Camacho ~Camacho Family
	12:00PM	Pro Populo ~ For the Community



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



Cheryl Birthrong, 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.

Prayer REQUESTS

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

Peticiones DE ORACION

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!

May 10th – Mother's Day

May 14th – The Ascension of the Lord – Holy day of Obligation – 12p & 6p English – 7:30p Spanish

May 16-17th – Red Wagon Weekend, please support our SVdP food pantry by filling their wagon with non-perishable items!

May 25th – Memorial Day ~ Office Closed~



5/11- Roderick Dunwoody, Daniel Fischer

5/13- Gabriella Anthony, Faea Tumanuvao

5/14- Berenice Carmona, Miguel Martinez, Judith McGonagle

5/15- Lyse-Faith Daout, Laura Mattaden, Jorge Rosa

5/16-Julio Jr. Garcia, Walter Nadolski, Calvin Steele

5/17- Edith Allison, Marcel Bouchard, Angel Luis Padill Saez

6th Sunday of Easter: Love So That You May See

“Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him.”
(Jn 14:21)

WORD OF LIFE

“Saint Anselm, one of the great Christian thinkers of the Middle Ages, coined a phrase that summarizes very well the attitude of the believer in the search for truth, in the study of philosophy: “Believe so that you may understand.” Faith, according to Saint Anselm, opens new horizons to our intelligence; our reasoning, when it reaches its limits, receives the help of faith and thus may see new perspectives.

However, this is not sufficient because man is not reason alone. He is not intelligence alone. In other words, there is a wisdom that is learned in a way other than study and reflection. It is the wisdom of the heart that Pascal spoke of: “The heart has its reasons which reason knows nothing of.” It is a matter of taking into consideration both sources of knowledge: reason and the heart, that is, love. It is love which makes us understand or at least accept certain things.

This is what Jesus taught when He said: “Whoever loves me... I will reveal myself to him.” He did not say: “Whoever ponders me,” nor did He say “Whoever believes in me”—even though faith is already a form of love. It is necessary to love Jesus in order to fully understand Him, just as a mother understands her son more than anyone else precisely because she loves him. Then, love and we will understand.

This way, the “Word of Life” for this week invites us to become complete human beings, that is, people who use not only one part of their qualities or capacities, but all of them.

It invites us to use not only our intelligence but also our heart. It invites us to love, knowing that love is the door of faith, the gate of our understanding to the things of God and of man. When we love, and only when we love, is when we realize the wisdom and the reason that the Church has to mandate some things and to forbid others.

Purpose: Whenever you have any doubt about faith or someone, start loving. Love will be the door that enlightens you. Do not close yourself in, believing that you will love only if you see. Love and you will see.



FRANCISCANS OF MARY - FRANCISCANOS DE MARIA

Email: information@franciscansofmary.org

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

Email: consultas@frmaria.org

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

VI Domingo de Pascua: Amar para ver

“El que acepta mis mandamientos y los guarda, ese me ama; al que me ama, lo amaré mi Padre, y yo también lo amaré y me revelaré a él” (Jn 14, 21)

PALABRA DE VIDA

San Anselmo, uno de los grandes pensadores cristianos de la Edad Media, acuñó una frase que resume muy bien la actitud del creyente en la búsqueda de la verdad, en el estudio de la filosofía: “Crear para entender”. La fe, según San Anselmo, abre a nuestra inteligencia nuevos horizontes; nuestra razón, cuando llega a su límite, recibe la ayuda de la fe y puede así otear nuevas perspectivas.

Sin embargo, eso no es suficiente, porque el hombre no es sólo razón, no es sólo inteligencia. O, mejor dicho, hay una sabiduría que se aprende de un modo distinto al estudio y a la reflexión. Es la sabiduría del corazón. Aquella de la que dijo Pascal: “El corazón tiene razones que la razón ignora”. Se trata de disponer de ambas fuentes de conocimiento: la razón, y el corazón, es decir, el amor. Es el amor el que nos hace entender o por lo menos aceptar ciertas cosas. Así lo enseñó Jesús cuando dijo: “Al que me ama... me revelaré a él”. No dijo: “Al que piensa en mí”, ni tan siquiera “al que cree en mí” -aunque ya la fe es una forma de amor-. Hace falta amar a Jesús para entenderle del todo, del mismo modo que una madre entiende al hijo más que nadie, precisamente porque le ama. Ama, pues, y entenderás.

De este modo, la “palabra de vida” de esta semana nos invita a ser hombres completos, que no usen sólo una parte de sus cualidades o capacidades. Nos invita a utilizar la cabeza, pero también el corazón. Nos invita a amar, sabiendo que el amor es la puerta de la fe, la puerta del entendimiento de las cosas de Dios y también de las cosas de los hombres. Cuando amamos, y sólo cuando amamos, es cuando nos damos cuenta de la sabiduría, de la razón, que tiene la Iglesia para mandar ciertas cosas y prohibir otras.

Propósito: Cuando tengas alguna duda de fe, o sobre alguien, ponte a amar. El amor será la puerta que te dé la luz. No te encierres, pensando que sólo amarás si ves. Ama y verás.



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.

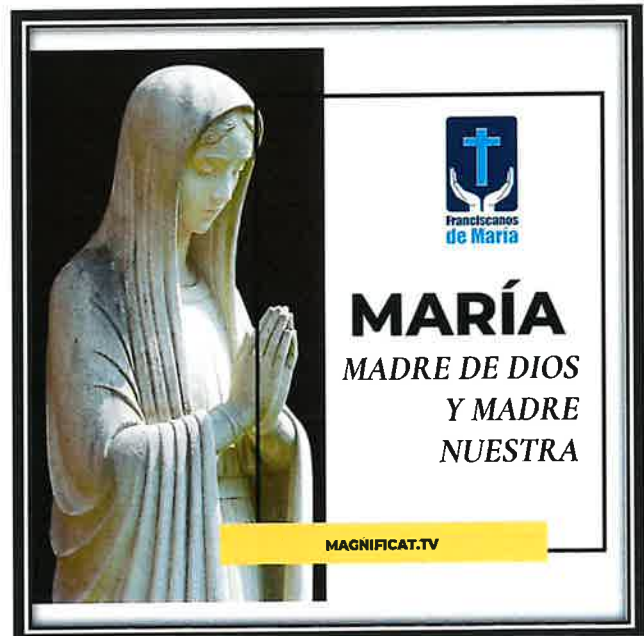
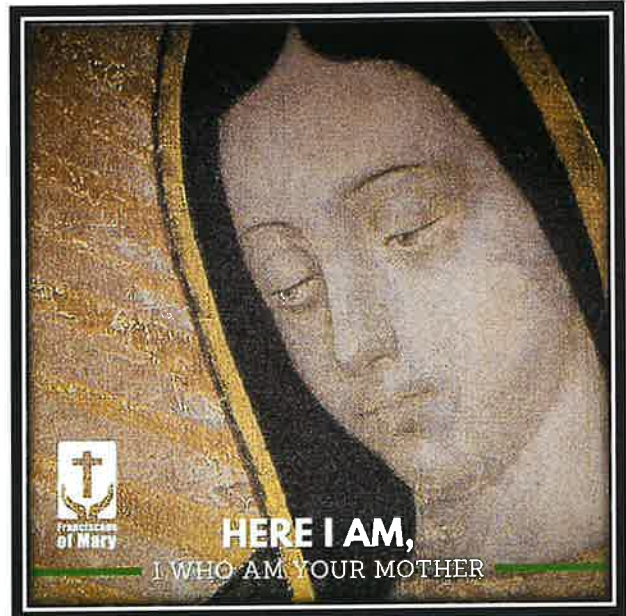
I ask for spiritual graces, such as the overcoming of my defects and for material help, for me, for others and for society.

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.



Regina caeli (Queen of Heaven)

Regina caeli, laetare, **alleluia.**
Quia quem meruisti portare, **alleluia.**

Resurrexit, sicut dixit, **alleluia.**
Ora pro nobis Deum, **alleluia.**



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.



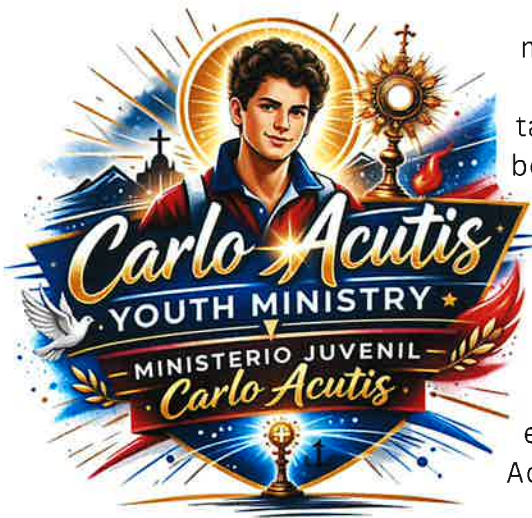
Grief Support Ministry

—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 Gritud

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



Respect Life Ministry reflects **Life** from Conception till death. **Life** is a Gift from God. On **Mother's Day**, may we remember all our **Mothers**, living and deceased, who said **Yes to Life**. In Gratitude, we pray for them and give thanks for our **Moms** and all they do or have done for us. Blessings on **Mother's Day** and every day!

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.



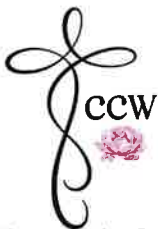
We invite all the crafty individuals to join us for our monthly meeting in the social hall for fellowship and crafts. Our next craft meeting is May 16th from 11a-2p and will be a Brunch theme and craft will be a button necklace. You can always work on your current project also.



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.



Council of
Catholic Women

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!

Honoring Our Mother's

Remembering our Mother's whether here or in our hearts we are so grateful for them each and every day!

Gladys I Albaladejo

Lide Barrett

Mathilda Baumann

Carmen Berrios

Gigi Bucman

Agnes Burgess

Amelia Burola

Gloria Camacho

Aleja Carrazco

Helen Carreker

Dolores S. Castro

Margaret Chambers

Joyce Christiani

Yvonne Clark

Epifania Colon

Graciela Cordon

Maria Crowe

Lourdes S.N. Cruz

Patricia Curley

Debbie Delgado

Maria Delgado

Josephine D'Orto

Monse Droz

Maria Argentina Esquivel

Maria Etheridge

Ingeburg J. Geoghegan

Carmen Grant

Agatha Griffith

Rina Hoffman

Agnes Hunter

Olga Irizarry

Leyda Jimenez

Kathryn Johanson

Betty Johnson

Juana Lasanta

Susan Leisentritt

Gertrud Linden

Lena Marlin

Martinez Family

Jean McCauley

Gladys Medina

Felicita Mendez

Gladys Mendez

Krystal Merchan

Honoring Our Mother's

Remembering our Mother's whether here or in our hearts we are so grateful for them each and every day!

Ana Y Meza
Annette Miller
Betty Miller
Karla Miller
Lori Caye Miller
Louise Miller
Shirley Miller
Eleanor Mills
Keri Nealey
Robin Nealey
Thea Nadolski
Jean Olson
Janette Paulk
Juanita Perez
Juanita Torres Perez
Monica Perez Perez
Yadira Torres Perez
Ambrosine Phillips
Marian Pitzen
Jacquelyne Rhodes
Luciel Ried
Maria Rios

Antonia Rivera
Gladys E Rivera
Maria Rivera
Ramonita Robles
Natividad Ortiz Rodriguel
Felin Rodriguez
Jane Rogers
Julia Rivera Rosado
Lydia Sanabria
Ramena Robles La Santa
Darlene Schnur
Allison Silva
Lydia Silva
Pat Sippel
Amy Smith
Doris Spurgeon
Peggy Stavro
Emilia Turner
Lisa Vazquez
Carmen Perez Velez
Mercedes Velez
Diana Young

PRAYER CHALLENGE INVITATION

MONTH OF THE *Rosary*

PRAYER CHALLENGE

May 1st, our parish family at St. Stephen First Martyr Catholic Church will host the Month of the Rosary prayer challenge on our Hallow parish page. Together, we'll pray the Rosary each day of the month dedicated to Our Lady.

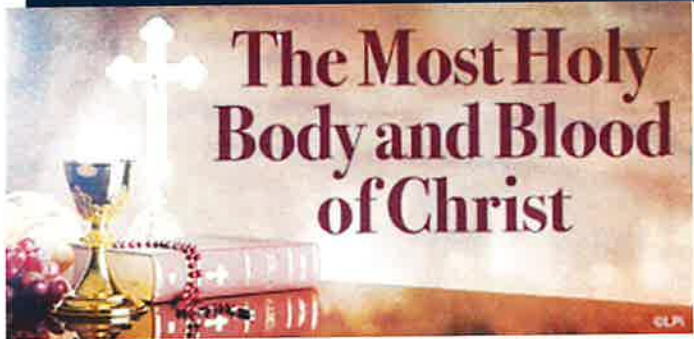
- Each session begins with a reflection from Fr. Burke Masters, followed by meditations led by guides like Sr. Miriam James, Jonathan Roumie, and Fr. David Michael Moses.
- You'll join both familiar Rosary prayers and new recordings never before released on Hallow.
- We are blessed to partner with Hallow, the #1 Catholic prayer app, to grow a culture of prayer in our community.

JOIN OUR PARISH ON HALLOW!
To participate, join our parish page on Hallow by searching for our parish name or zip code in the Community tab, or by visiting hallow.com/parish.

Everyone—whether using the free or paid version of Hallow—can take part.

Let's unite as a parish family in prayer this May through the powerful intercession of *Mary, Our Mother.*

POWERED BY **Hallow** THE #1 CATHOLIC PRAYER APP



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


<u>Weekly Offertory - April 26th</u> <i>Min. of \$10,000 needed weekly</i>	
Offertory	\$5,109
Building Fund	\$30
Online Giving	\$784
Total	\$5,923

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.

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 June 6th and 7th.



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.

We have raised \$7,577 towards our \$34,667 goal!!!!



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.



HARVEST of HOPE
COSECHIA de ESPERANZA

Our Harvest of Hope overall goal is \$247,268.00 So far we have received \$51,159, with an additional \$87,698 pledged to be paid by the end of the campaign. This has us at 56% 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:

For unclean spirits, crying out in a loud voice,
came out of many possessed people,
and many paralyzed or crippled people were cured.
There was great joy in that city. (Acts 8:7-8)

Psalm:

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy. (Ps 66)
Or Alleluia.

Second Reading:

For Christ also suffered for sins once,
the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous,
that he might lead you to God. (1 Pt 3:18)

Gospel:

“Whoever has my commandments and observes them
is the one who loves me.
And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father,
and I will love him and reveal myself to him.” (Jn 14:21)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

When we want to see Christ's face, we must look to the Sacraments. “The world will no longer see me,” Christ tells his disciples, “but you will see me.” This ability to see Jesus is a gift of the Holy Spirit, one made again and again — even today.

Observances for the week of May 10, 2026

- Sunday:** 6th Sunday of Easter; *Mother's Day*
Tuesday: Sts. Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs;
St. Pancras, Martyr
Wednesday: Our Lady of Fatima
Thursday: The Ascension of the Lord (holy day of obligation in some U.S. dioceses);
St. Matthias, Apostle
Friday: St. Isidore
Saturday: *Armed Forces Day*
Next Sunday: The Ascension of the Lord; 7th Sunday of Easter;
World Communications Day



Virtues, Explained!

The virtue of courage is intimately linked with that of fortitude — roughly understood as courage in action — and is shown by the person who makes a choice to place his trust in God, not in circumstance.

Blessing for Mother's Day

Dear Lord,
Pour your goodness and grace upon the women of our community today in a special way. For mothers: fill them with joy and blessing.
For those who have lost children: hold them in their sorrow.
For those who have hoped for children: surround them with Your love.
For those who have lost a mother: may they know Your comfort.
For those carrying difficulty on this day: bring them consolation.
Bless all women this day. Thank you for the love they bring to this world, no matter their circumstances or story.
Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of May 10, 2026

Sunday:

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16
and 20/1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21

Monday:

Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and
9b/Jn 15:26-16:4a

Tuesday:

Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138: 1-2ab, 2cde-3,
7c-8/Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday:

Acts 17:15, 22-18:1/Ps 148: 1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/
Jn 16:12-15

Thursday:

Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6,
7-8/Jn 15:9-17

Friday:

Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/
Jn 16:20-23

Saturday:

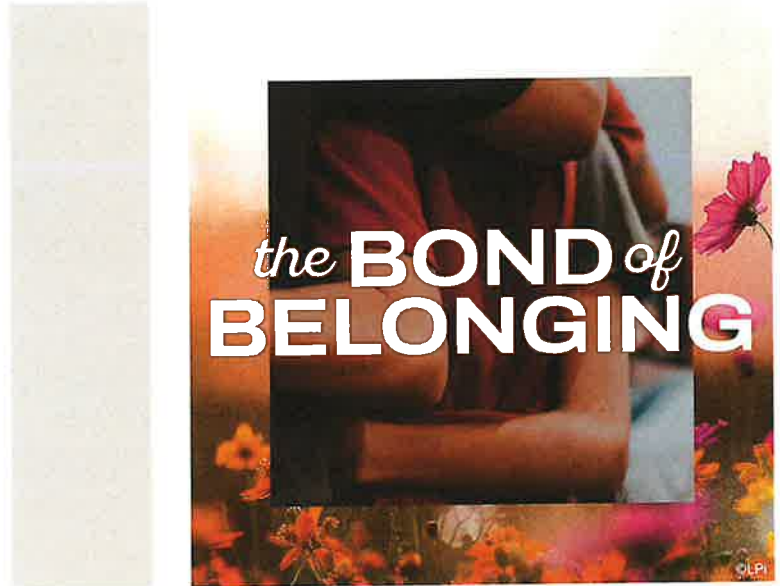
Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47: 2-3, 8-9, 10/
Jn 16:23b-28

Next Sunday:

Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47: 2-3, 6-7, 8-9/Eph 1:17-
23/Mt 28:16-20



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

In my family, we can hardly speak about orphans without tears. My father was adopted as a baby. He frequently told us stories of how his parents welcomed him not just into their home but into their hearts. It was never merely a relocation or a legal transaction. It was the joy of being chosen, of receiving a family, a name, and a place where he belonged forever. Even in his later years, recalling that gift still moves him to tears of tender gratitude.

That is the kind of tenderness behind Jesus' words in today's Gospel: **"I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you."** (John 14:18) He is going away, but not abandoning us. Instead, he sends us the Advocate, the Holy Spirit — his own Spirit, shared with the Father — who dwells in us. Through the Spirit, Christ is present in us, and we are present in him. His Spirit gives us a home and a family.

We deepen this knowledge in the sacraments, in prayer, and in the daily life of the Church. The Spirit is the bond of belonging, the power that makes us God's sons and daughters, not spiritual orphans. And this is not a one-time event. There is always a deeper outpouring of the Spirit available to us, a fresh appropriation of the promise that we are never abandoned.

If only we could be as grateful as my dad is for his adoption, realizing that we have been adopted by God Himself. In Christ, we are never left as orphans.

— *Father John Muir*



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 5:30p. 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

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Office Manager: Annette Miller

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Parochial Vicar: Fr. Modeste Seloukou, FM

Sacristan: Sam Beiterr beiterrl@yahoo.com

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