



# SAINT STEPHEN FIRST MARTYR



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



SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2026



THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

THAT THE WORLD  
MIGHT BE

**SAVED.**

JOHN 3:17

# MASS INTENTIONS



<b>Sat. 5/30</b>	5:00PM	†Soul of Bill Crowe Jr. ~ <i>Dushner Family</i>
<b>Sun. 5/31</b>	8:00AM	<i>Pro Populo ~ For the Community</i>
	10:00AM	†In memory of our Deceased Choir Members ~ <i>Spurgeon Family</i>
	12:00PM	†Soul of Robert Cook ~ <i>Nicholle Germain</i>
<b>Mon 6/1</b>	12:00PM	Special Intentions for Carol & Terry Force ~ <i>Bonny Carreker</i>
<b>Mon 6/1</b>	7:00PM	<i>Our Parish Community</i>
<b>Tues. 6/2</b>	12:00PM	†Soul of Arvind Ganaway
<b>Weds. 6/3</b>	12:00PM	†Poor Souls in Purgatory ~ <i>Gudron Poertner</i>
<b>Thurs. 6/4</b>	12:00PM	<i>Our Parish Community</i>
<b>Thurs. 6/4</b>	7:00PM	<i>Our Parish Community</i>
<b>Fri. 6/5</b>	5:30PM	†Soul of Linda Greathouse ~ <i>Normita Balayout</i>
<b>Fri. 6/5</b>	7:00PM	<i>Our Parish Community</i>
<b>Sat. 6/6</b>	5:00PM	†Souls of Magdalene Gasior & Walter Gasior, Jr. ~ <i>Dee Eichelberger</i>
<b>Sun. 6/7</b>	8:00AM	†Lee Tolbert ~ <i>Henry &amp; Ione Phillips</i>
	10:00AM	Healing for Kim Archambault ~ <i>Bonny Carreker</i>
	12:00PM	†Soul of Edy, Vero, Lesly Torres & Gustavo Chihuahua ~ <i>Lilian Jacobo</i>



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



Maria Crowe, Jaoquina Meno, Iris, Alaia Sanmiguel Barrero, Zulma Rivera, Angel Rivera, 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 Pecenek, 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!**

**June 6-7<sup>th</sup>** – Maintenance Fund Collection

**June 16-17<sup>th</sup>** – Red Wagon Weekend – The Red Wagons will be in the Narthax collecting goods for our SVdP food pantry!



Happiest Birthday's to all our June babies, we didn't have any registered parishoners with a birthday this week, so we just want to wish everyone a happy birthday month!

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## **Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity: On Earth as It Is in Heaven**

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.” (Jn 3:16)*

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### **WORD OF LIFE**

The Most Holy Trinity, the fact that there is only One God but three different Persons of the same nature and dignity, is a mystery, something that we accept by faith and that reason cannot understand, which does not mean that it is “irrational.” But it is also a great gift that Jesus gave us by revealing God’s nature and Di-vine Intimacy.

The fact that God is at the same time One and Triune, One and different, tells us what life is like in heaven.

Living a “trinitarian life” is to live as a “family.” In other words, God is family. Love is the essence of God, and not only as a love that gives itself to strangers, but also as a love that establishes the inner relations in the Divinity. Therefore, in Heaven, One lives by loving, loving the One with Whom the essential is shared, the Divine Nature, and with Whom One has legitimate differences, the three different Persons. If this is Heaven, we should try to replicate it here on Earth, for Christ taught us to pray to the Father precisely for this.

Therefore, let’s accept our legitimate differences and seek unity. In everything and always: love.

**Purpose: If unity has been fractured, forgive and ask for forgiveness. Accept any legitimate differences by respecting others as you would want them to respect you.**

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## **Santísima Trinidad: En la tierra como en el cielo**

*“Tanto amó Dios al mundo que entregó a su Hijo único, para que no perezca ninguno de los que creen en él, sino que tengan vida eterna” (Jn 3, 16)*

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### **PALABRA DE VIDA**

La Santísima Trinidad –el hecho de que exista un solo Dios y tres personas distintas de la misma naturaleza y dignidad- es un “misterio”, algo que aceptamos por la fe porque la razón no consigue entender, lo cual no significa que sea “irracional”. Pero es también un gran regalo que nos hizo Jesús al revelarnos cómo era Dios, la naturaleza e intimidad divina.

El hecho de que Dios sea uno y trino a la vez, uno y diferente, nos indica cuál es el modo de vivir que se tiene en el cielo. Un vivir “trinitario” es un vivir “en familia”. O dicho de otro modo: Dios es familia. El amor es la esencia de Dios, pero no sólo como amor que se da a los extraños –entre ellos a los hombres- sino también como amor que establece las relaciones internas en la divinidad. En el cielo, por lo tanto, se vive amando; amando a aquel con el que se comparte lo esencial –la naturaleza divina- y con el que hay legítimas diferencias –las tres diferentes personas-. Y si esto es así en el cielo, deberemos intentar que sea también así en la tierra, pues Cristo nos enseñó a rezar pidiéndole justamente eso al Padre.

Por lo tanto: acepta las diferencias legítimas y busca la unidad. En todo y siempre: ama.

**Propósito: Busca la unidad y acepta las legítimas diferencias. Para lo primero perdona y pide perdón si la unidad se ha roto. Para lo segundo: respeta como te gusta ser respetado.**



## **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.**

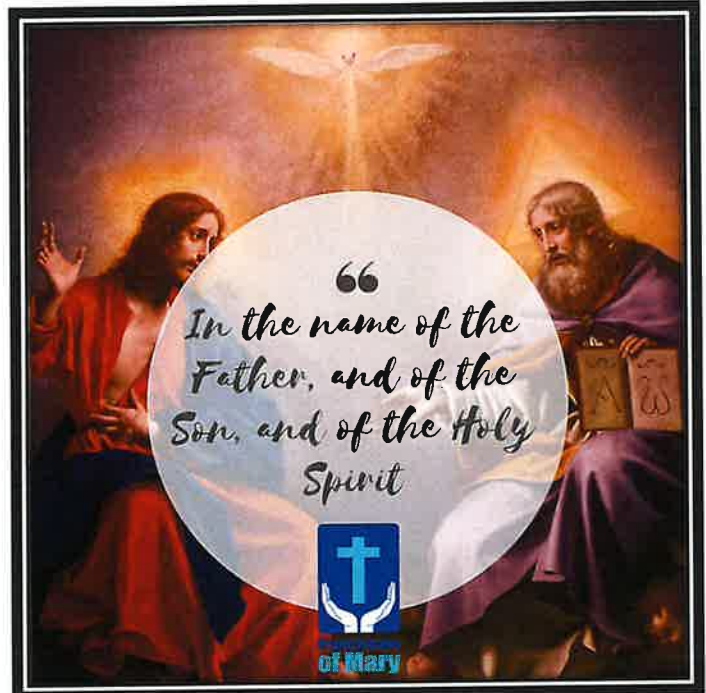
*I ask for spiritual graces, such as the overcoming of my defects and for material help, for me, for others and for society.*

**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.*



*"The Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God; and yet there are not three Gods but one God."— St. Augustine (De Trinitate, I. 7)*



## 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.



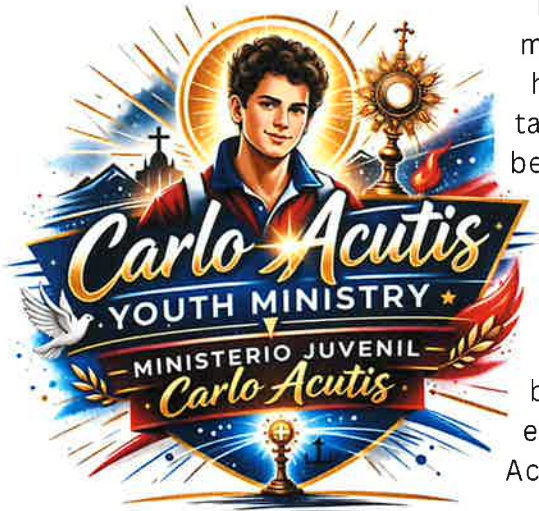
## Grief Support Ministry

—You are not alone—

**Grief Support Meeting**  
1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:sshprayers@gmail.com)



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

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

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

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

Abierto a jóvenes de 14 a 23 años.

## School of Gratitude

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



## Escuela de Gracitud

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 June 13<sup>th</sup> from 11a-2p and will be Patriotic 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:betsystewart@gmail.com)



**Next Red Wagon Weekend is June 20<sup>th</sup> and 21st!**

**Saint Vincent de Paul (SVdP)**



SVdP supports our Parish and local community through their Food Pantry. We meet monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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!



St. Stephen

First Martyr Catholic Church  
Hinesville, Georgia



# A Safe Church Starts with You!



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

## WHAT IS VIRTUS?



# VIRTUS®

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



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



SCAN HERE TO LEARN MORE OR GET STARTED.



## WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?



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



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



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



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



SCAN HERE TO LEARN MORE OR GET STARTED.



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



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



For more information or to get started, visit [virtusonline.org](http://virtusonline.org) or contact the parish office.



# Hallow



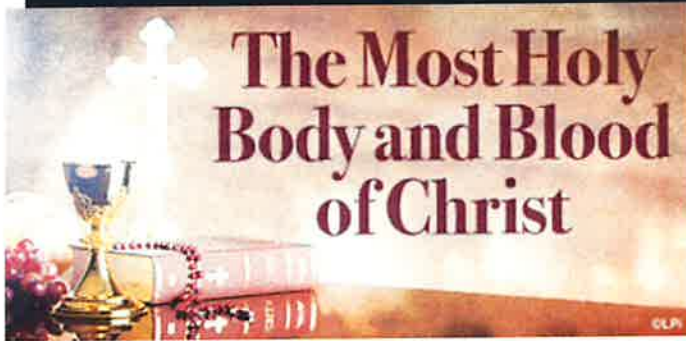
Hallow

*Find peace.*  
Grow closer to  
God, every day



Hallow

*Encuentre la paz.*  
Acérquese más  
a Dios cada día.



## 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](http://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.

<b><u>Weekly Offertory - May 17th</u></b> <i>Min. of \$10,000 needed weekly</i>	
Offertory	\$5,460
Building Fund	\$305
Online Giving	\$861
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,626</b>

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 \$10,832 towards our \$34,667 goal!!!!**

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.



**fe, esperanza, caridad**  
2026 CAMPAÑA CATÓLICA ANUAL



HARVEST OF HOPE  
CÓSECHA & 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](http://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:

Having come down in a cloud, the LORD stood with Moses there and proclaimed his name, "LORD." (Ex 34:5)

### Psalm:

Glory and praise for ever! (Dn 3)

### Second Reading:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you. (2 Cor 13:13)

### Gospel:

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. (Jn 3:16)

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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Salvation is a gift God dearly wishes us to accept. It is not a yardstick against which He measures our worth. He has made it so simple. So, will we accept?

## Observances for the week of May 31, 2026

- Sunday:** The Most Holy Trinity  
**Monday:** St. Justin, Martyr  
**Tuesday:** Sts. Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs  
**Wednesday:** St. Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs  
**Friday:** St. Boniface, Bishop and Martyr  
**Saturday:** St. Norbert, Bishop  
**Next Sunday:** The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

## Readings for the week of May 31, 2026

### Sunday:

Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/  
2 Cor 13:11-13/Jn 3:16-18

### Monday:

2 Pt 1:2-7/ Ps 91:1-2, 14-15b, 15c-16/  
Mk 12:1-12

### Tuesday:

2 Pt 3:12-15a, 17-18/ Ps 90:2, 3-4, 10, 14  
and 16/Mk 12:13-17

### Wednesday:

2 Tm 1:1-3, 6-12/ Ps 123:1b-2ab, 2cdef/  
Mk 12:18-27

### Thursday:

2 Tm 2:8-15/ Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/  
Mk 12:28-34

### Friday:

2 Tm 3:10-17/ Ps 119:157, 160, 161, 165, 166,  
168/Mk 12:35-37

### Saturday:

2 Tm 4:1-8/ Ps 71:8-9, 14-15ab, 16-17, 22/  
Mk 12:38-44

### Next Sunday:

Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-  
20/1 Cor 10:16-17/Jn 6:51-58



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# Worship Schedule

**English Weekday Masses-** Monday through 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 Mon-Thurs)

**Spanish Weekday Masses-** Monday, Thursday and Friday weekly 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.



## St. Stephen

First Martyr Catholic Church  
Hinesville, Ga

### **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 1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

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***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

ssfmc399@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