

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

# ARE YOU NOT THE CHRIST?

— LUKE 23:39 —



## SAINT STEPHEN FIRST MARTYR



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

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2025**

# St Stephen First Martyr

## Upcoming Events:

**November 22-23** – Please return all Food donations for the Thanksgiving St. Vincent DePaul food boxes no later than this weekend.

**November 26-27** – Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

**November 27 – 10am** – Bilingual Thanksgiving Day Mass

**December 1<sup>st</sup> - 7p** – **Knights of Columbus Meeting** – Anyone interested in becoming a KOC, or existing members please attend the monthly meeting to discuss upcoming plans.

**December 2<sup>nd</sup> - 7p** – **Grief Support Meeting** - Find comfort and healing from your grief of a lost loved one or companion.

**December 5<sup>th</sup> - First Friday Mass - 12p English and 7p Spanish** – There will be Eucharistic Adoration starting an hour and a half before Mass and Rosary will begin thirty minutes before Mass.

**December 6<sup>th</sup> - 10:30a** – **First Saturday Rosary** – Join us for Rosary in the Church

**December 6<sup>th</sup> - 2p-8p** – **Knights of Columbus** Rib pick up and sales, please see information in the inserts.

**December 6<sup>th</sup> – 6p-9p** – **St. Vincent DePaul Carol-Oke** – Join us in supporting the food pantry and for some Karaoke fun, more information is in the inserts.

**December 8<sup>th</sup> – Holy Day of Obligation – Immaculate Conception of Mary** Mass at 5p in English and 7p in Spanish.

DATE	MASS TIME	MASS INTENTIONS
Sat. 11/22	5:00PM	†Soul of Thomas & Dinah Johanson ~Eric & Rita Johanson
Sun. 11/23	8:00AM	†Soul of Samuel Bernades ~Vincent Bernades
	10:00AM	†Souls in Purgatory ~Christine Williams
	12:00PM	Pro Populo – For the Community
Mon 11/24	5:30PM	Special Intentions for Edgardo Ortiz Cruz
Mon 11/24	7:00PM	Our Parish Community
Tues. 11/25	12:00PM	Our Parish Community
Weds. 11/26	12:00PM	Our Parish Community
Thurs. 11/27	10:00AM	In Thanksgiving ~ Bilingual Mass
Sat. 11/29	5:00PM	†Soul of Ofelia Capapas ~Normita Baluyot
Sun. 11/30	8:00AM	†Soul of Dr. Cliphane McLeod ~Henry & Ione Phillips
	10:00AM	Special Intentions for Carol & Terry Force ~Bonny Carreker
	12:00PM	Pro Populo – For the Community



11/24- Eowyn Forsell

11/25- Michael Archambault, Wilfredo Burgos Pomales, Manuela Hooper, Zana Ouattara, Joiah Poertner

11/26- Alejandra Gonzalez, Sonia Velez

11/27- Roger Archambault, Rocky Bosch, Al Ganaway, Kyle Nguyen, Lila Steele, Lui Tumanuvao

11/28- Hannah Helmick, Gloria Jean Sprague, Raelynn Wells, Rhiannon Wells

11/29- Patricia Hewitt, Omar Sandoval, Patricia Sheehan

11/30- Anna Marie Fejeran, Charlotte Grimes



Janice Robertson, Nancy Hill, Tom & Jeannine Wing, June Holt, Leslie Shaw, Stacy Fletcher, Sandra Powell, Joyce Elliott, Laurie Elliott, Doug Walker, Hettie Johnson, Dillion Bovinge, Summer Jones, Robert JoVan, Lounell Scott, David Weeks, Walter Helmick, Andre McCall, Nellie Orta, Angela Wheeler, Sara Wheeler, Merle Stroud, Renee Millner, Larry Harris, Dottie Cozier, Fred Hand, Iris Potett, Mary Huffman, Joan Rambach, Chambers Family, Jane Chatman, Gudrun Poertner, Cindy Gray, Ethin Nettle, Bonny Pecenak, Amy Smith.

(Names remain on the list for 30 days unless notified)

## 34<sup>th</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time: Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe: Share the Crown

*"The people stood by and watched; the rulers, meanwhile, sneered at him and said, 'He saved others, let him save himself if he is the chosen one, the Messiah of God.' Even the soldiers jeered at him. As they approached to offer him wine, they called out, 'If you are King of the Jews, save yourself.'"* (Lk 23:35-37).

### WORD OF LIFE

The Church always ends the liturgical year with a special feast day: the Solemnity of Christ the King. With this, it wants to proclaim the conviction that Jesus of Nazareth is the Son of God, the real Lord of the Universe. However, this faith in the divinity and power of Christ does not hide the frailty of the Lord; and that is why the Gospel that the Church selected for this Sunday shows Christ at His most vulnerable, His greatest prostration: that of the Cross.

On this year's Solemnity of Christ the King, the "Word of Life" invites us to re-member that the Lord, Whom we love and worship, is crowned with thorns, and not with gold or diamonds. This should lead us to sympathize with Him. It cannot be any other way if we truly love Him. Could a mother live in abundance while her children die of hunger? Is it possible for a friend to squander everything while his companion suffers hardships?

Well, if "no" is our only answer to these questions, then our answer should be the same to the question we ask ourselves concerning our solidarity with the King crowned with thorns.

We cannot have a clean conscience while He is suffering today as He did then; suffering hunger, thirst, loneliness, and injustice. We must hurry to free Him from His crown of pain, and to do so, we must remove it from those who wear it: all those who suffer. Naturally, we will prick ourselves with the thorns in doing so, but that will be a price that we will gladly pay to alleviate the pain of He Who is first in our lives:  
Christ, Our King.

**Purpose:** Worship Christ. Put Him first in your life by performing works of love for those in need. It is by helping them that you help your Crucified Lord.

## Domingo XXXIV del T.O: Cristo Rey: compartir la corona

*"Las autoridades y el pueblo hacían muecas a Jesús, diciendo 'A otros ha salvado; que se salve a sí mismo si él es el mesías a Dios, el elegido'. Se burlaban de él también los soldados ofreciéndole vinagre y diciendo: 'Si eres tú el rey de los judíos, sálvate a ti mismo'".* (Lc 23, 35-38)

### PALABRA DE VIDA

La Iglesia termina siempre el año litúrgico con una fiesta especial: la solemnidad de Cristo Rey. Con ella quiere proclamar su convicción de que Jesús de Nazaret es el Hijo de Dios, auténtico Señor del Universo. Pero esta fe en la divinidad y el poder de Cristo no le lleva a ocultar la debilidad del Señor y, por eso, selecciona como texto para la lectura del Evangelio dominical aquel en el que se muestra a Cristo en su mayor fragilidad, en su mayor postración: el de la Cruz.

En la solemnidad de Cristo Rey de este año, la "palabra de vida" nos invita a recordar que el Señor al que amamos y adoramos está coronado de espinas y no de oro o diamantes. Y eso nos lleva a desear solidarizarnos con él. No puede ser de otra manera si de verdad le queremos. ¿Podría una madre vivir en la abundancia mientras sus hijos mueren de hambre? ¿Le es posible a un amigo derrochar mientras su compañero pasa penalidades?

Pues bien, si esas preguntas sólo tienen el "no" como respuesta, lo mismo debemos contestar nosotros a la pregunta que tenemos que hacernos sobre nuestra solidaridad con el Rey coronado de espinas. No podemos tener la conciencia tranquila mientras él esté así, hoy como entonces, sufriendo hambre, sed, soledad e injusticia. Debemos apresurarnos para ir a liberarle de su corona de dolor y para hacerlo tenemos que quitársela de la frente a los que la llevan: todos los que sufren. Naturalmente que nos pincharemos con las espinas al hacerlo, pero ese será el precio que pagaremos gustosos por aliviar el dolor de aquel que es el primero en nuestra vida, nuestro Rey, Cristo.

**Propósito:** Adorar a Cristo y ponerle en el primer lugar de la vida con obras concretas de amor al prójimo necesitado, pues ayudando a éste ayudamos a nuestro Señor crucificado.



## 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.**

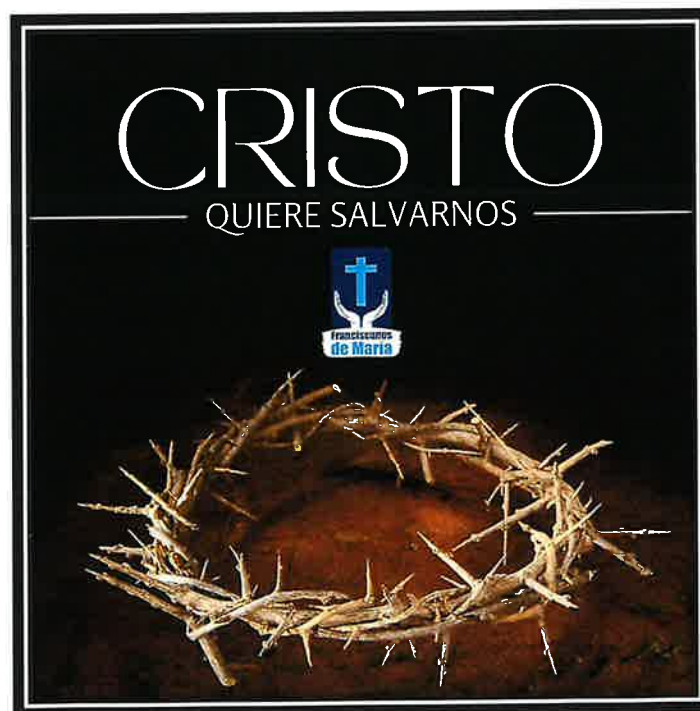
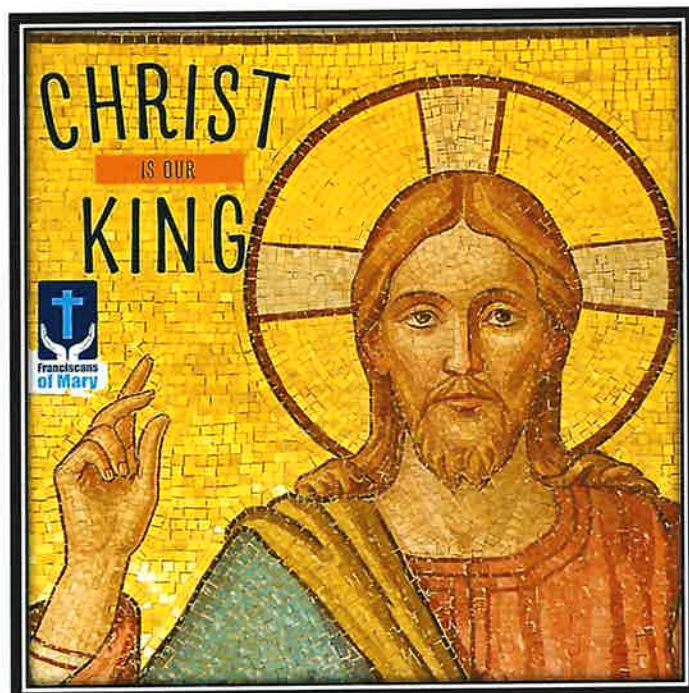
*I ask for spiritual graces, such as the overcoming of my defects and for material help, for me, for others and for society.*

**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.*





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

**WE PRAY TOGETHER**

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

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

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

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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



**Harvest of Hope  
VOCATIONS  
ENDOWMENT**

**THE BENEFIT OF ENDOWMENTS**

An endowment fund is an investment portfolio that generates income for a nonprofit or charitable organization. The principal amount remains intact, while the earnings from investments are used for a specific purpose. The diocese recognizes that some projects are ongoing and will need support for years to come, and endowments help to safeguard the monies raised.

**HARVEST OF HOPE CREATES A  
VOCATIONS ENDOWMENT**

The Harvest of Hope campaign will create a \$5,000,000 vocations endowment. Held in the Catholic Foundation of South Georgia, this endowment will be allowed to mature for five years.

Following that five year period, interest on the endowment will be used to support a culture of vocations across the diocese. The diocese has a goal of educating and forming 30 seminarians at a cost of \$56,000 per seminarian per year. We pray this goal becomes a reality.

For the rest of this year, we will pray, we will learn, and we will consider how our sacrifice, along with that of all the faithful of the diocese, will enable our growth, both at St. Stephen First Martyr and throughout the Diocese of Savannah.

For more information, please contact our campaign director Iris Bodre at 864-940-1483 or [ibodre@guidanceingiving.com](mailto:ibodre@guidanceingiving.com)





**HARVEST  
of HOPE**

**COSECHA de ESPERANZA**

### ORAMOS JUNTOS

Padre Celestial, que nos has reunido hoy y aquí en Tu providencia, te pedimos guíes, inspires y bendigas nuestra Diócesis de Savannah y la campaña Cosecha de Esperanza.

Otorga Señor a Tus hijos, el terreno rico de la fe, esperanza y el amor, para que las semillas que sembramos hoy den frutos abundantes para las generaciones venideras.

Mientras trabajamos juntos por la venida plena de Tu reino, Señor, que encontremos una nueva forma de ser para Ti y para los demás, regocijándonos siempre en Tu generosidad.

Te lo pedimos por Cristo Nuestro Señor. Amén.

*Sembrando semillas para el futuro de la Diócesis de Savannah.*



## **COSECHA DE ESPERANZA** **Crea Un Fondo Patrimonial para las Vocaciones**

### **LOS BENEFICIOS DE LOS FONDOS PATRIMONIALES**

Un fondo patrimonial es una cartera de inversiones que genera ingresos para una organización sin ánimo de lucro o benéfica. La cantidad principal permanece intacta, mientras que los beneficios de las inversiones se destinan a un propósito específico. La diócesis reconoce que algunos proyectos son actuales y necesitarán apoyo durante años, y los fondos patrimoniales ayudan a mantener el dinero recaudado.

### **COSECHA DE ESPERANZA CREA UN FONDO PATRIMONIAL PARA LAS VOCACIONES**

La campaña Cosecha de Esperanza creará un fondo patrimonial de 5 millones de dólares para las Vocaciones. Este fondo patrimonial, que se mantendrá en la Fundación Católica de Georgia del Sur, madurará durante cinco años.

Después de ese período de cinco años, los intereses del fondo patrimonial se utilizarán para apoyar una cultura vocacional en toda la diócesis. La diócesis tiene el objetivo de educar y formar a 30 seminaristas a un coste de 56.000 dólares al año por seminarista. Rezamos para que este objetivo se haga realidad.

Vamos a usar lo que nos queda de este año para rezar, aprender y considerar cómo nuestro sacrificio, junto con el de todos los fieles de la diócesis, permitirá nuestro crecimiento, tanto en San Esteban Mártir como en toda la Diócesis de Savannah.

Para más información, póngase en contacto con nuestra directora de la campaña Iris Bodré en el 863-940-1483 o [ibodre@guidanceingiving.com](mailto:ibodre@guidanceingiving.com)

# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

"And the LORD said to you,  
"You shall shepherd my people Israel  
and shall be commander of Israel." (2 Sm 5:2)

### Psalm:

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord. (Ps 122)

### Second Reading:

For in him all the fullness was pleased to dwell,  
and through him to reconcile all things for him,  
making peace by the blood of his cross  
through him, whether those on earth or those  
in heaven. (Col 1:19-20)

### Gospel:

He replied to him,  
"Amen, I say to you,  
today you will be with me in Paradise." (Lk 23:43)

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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Our king wears a crown of thorns, not a crown of gold. His glory is not in riches but in suffering. His law is written in his own blood, shed for the love of us. Do we understand the gift that it is, to be subject to such a king?

## Observances for the week of November 23, 2025

- Sunday:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe  
**Monday:** St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs  
**Tuesday:** St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr  
**Thursday:** Thanksgiving Day  
**Next Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Advent

## Readings for the week of November 23, 2025

### Sunday:

2 Sm 5:1-3/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5 (see 1)/  
Col 1:12-20/Lk 23:35-43

### Monday:

Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/  
Lk 21:1-4

### Tuesday:

Dn 2:31-45/Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61/  
Lk 21:5-11

### Wednesday:

Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/Dn 3:62, 63,  
64, 65, 66, 67/Lk 21:12-19

### Thursday:

Dn 6:12-28/Dn 3:68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73,  
74/Lk 21:20-28

### Friday:

Dn 7:2-14/Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81/  
Lk 21:29-33

### Saturday:

Dn 7:15-27/Dn 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87/  
Lk 21:34-36

### Next Sunday:

Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/  
Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44



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The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for  
Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in  
the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



## Saint Stephen's Knights of Columbus

1<sup>st</sup> Annual  
Rack of Ribs Sale

December 6<sup>th</sup> 2p-8p



### Available for Purchase:

- ✚ \$12 Rib dinners with sides & a roll.
- ✚ \$25 Individual Rack of Ribs.
- ✚ \$100 for 5 Racks of Ribs.
- ✚ Cash or Credit Card Accepted.

### The Details:

- ✚ Cooked Over a Real Wood Fire.
- ✚ Proceeds will go to the Church for replacement of AC in Social Hall.
- ✚ Pick-up will be at the Social Hall from 2pm until 8pm or until we are sold out on December 6<sup>th</sup>. This is also the SVDP Karaoke Night, so you could plan to have a rib dinner and stay for the Karaoke.
- ✚ Advance tickets on sale after all Masses beginning November 8<sup>th</sup> by the Knights of Columbus members.
- ✚ Tickets can also be purchased in the Office or by contacting POC Rito Arredondo @ 912-391-7084



Are YOU Ready to Fight Against Cancer???

## JOIN ST STEPHEN RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM

To Join or Donate to our Team

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



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

Relay for Life Liberty County  
May 1st 2026



ANY QUESTIONS TEXT OR EMAIL MARSHA CLIFTON  
912-737-1344 OR LOOKYOURBESTWITHME@YAHOO.COM

# CAROL-OKE CHRISTMAS KARAOKE

Presented by Sacred Garden Gift Shop \*  
Saturday, December 6 - 6:00 PM (after Mass)

### A SVDP Fundraising Family Event

We'll be collecting new socks,  
non-perishable food, and  
monetary donations to  
support those in need



### Join the Christmas Fun!

- ✚ Individual Karaoke Performances
- ✚ Group Christmas Caroling
- ✚ Contests & Prizes
- ✚ Door Prizes
- ✚ And a Very Special Guest Appearance!

### Delicious Food & Festive Treats

- Knights of Columbus — Selling Rib Dinners & Individual Rib Slabs
- SVDP & Sacred Garden Gift Shop—Selling Drinks, Snacks items

Come share the joy, laughter, and music of the season!  
Sing your heart out, celebrate with friends, and help spread Christmas cheer!



## Angel Tree Guidelines

Saint Stephen First Martyr Catholic Church

*\*Select a gift tag from the Angel  
Tree in Narthax.*

*\*Purchase the requested gift.*

*\*Return Unwrapped gift to the  
Narthax with the gift tag attached  
to the gift.*

*Gifts will be collected starting  
November 27<sup>th</sup> thru December 14<sup>th</sup>.*



## *School of Gratitude*

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

## *Escuela de Gratitud*

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



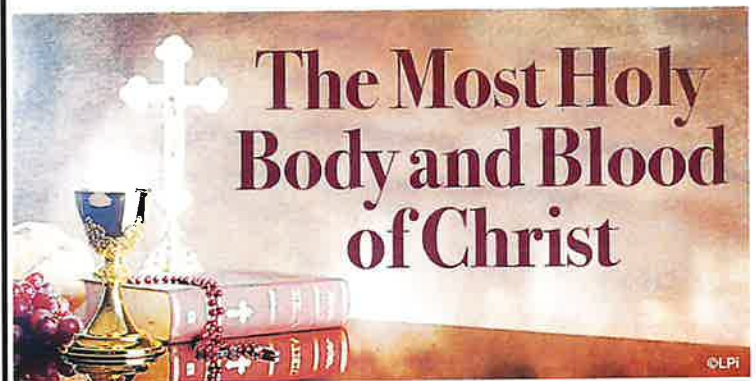
Thursdays 6-8:30pm  
Saint Stephen Social Hall



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

## ***Guidelines for Receiving the Eucharist***

You are not to eat or drink anything except for water or required medicine, for one hour before actually receiving communion. This is called the Communion or Eucharist fast. It is meant to help us focus on our Lord and what we are about to receive. Chewing gum, candy, mints, etc. during Mass is therefore inappropriate. Both forms for receiving the host are acceptable, in the palm of one hand with the other hand underneath, or on the extended tongue. Extend your hands palm-side up toward the priest and stand as close to the priest as possible when receiving Communion. Never take the host from the priest. After receiving the Eucharist, you say **Amen**. Proper reverence and respect is most important, hands should be reverently folded while waiting to receive the Sacrament.



## **SCAM WARNING**

Please note: If you receive a request for gift cards purporting to be from your pastor, parish, or the Bishop, **it is a scam and should be ignored**. If you aren't sure if an email or message is authentic, do not reply. Check with the person or parish using another method.

# PARISH SUPPORT

## DONATIONS

### Weekly Offertory – NOV 9

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

Offertory	\$5,446
Building Fund	\$216
Online Giving	\$596
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,258</b>

### 3 great ways to support our Parish

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

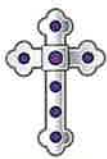


PROMISE TO  
PROTECT



PLEDGE TO  
HEAL

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



HARVEST  
of HOPE  
COSECHA de ESPERANZA

*Several Parishioners have already made a Commitment to our Parish for the Harvest of Hope. If you haven't done so please place your commitment cards in the offertory basket!*

*We are so thankful to those who have already made commitments and donations and are so grateful to our Parish! This campaign is aimed to bring great things to our Parish and the Diocese!*

### Active Parishioner Status

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

*An active member is one who 1) Is properly registered with the Parish office and gives regular to the offertory through envelopes or online giving. 2) Faithfully attends Mass on Sunday's and Holy days of Obligation.*

*Even though you attend Mass, if you are not registered with the Parish, we have no information about you and you are not eligible to be Sponsors, God-parents, etc. While assessments of an inquirer's status will be made individually, the above are the main factors that will be considered in making that determination. Please be sure to register with the office and keep your information up to date! You can easily send an email to [ssfmcc399@gmail.com](mailto:ssfmcc399@gmail.com) to make changes.*

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

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

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



## Parish Staff

### **Pastor:**

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

### **Parochial Vicar:**

Fr. Modeste Seloukou,  
FM

### **Deacon:**

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

### **Sacristan:**

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

### **Office Manager:**

Annette Miller

### **Office Assistant:**

Diana Young

### **Parish Catechetical Leader:**

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

### **Parish Council President:**

### **Office Hours:**

Mon: 9AM-6PM

Tues-Thurs: 9AM-2PM

### **Gift Shop Hours:**

TBD

SACRED GARDEN  
GIFT SHOP  
ST. STEPHEN



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



912-876-4364 (office)

912-876-3150 (fax)



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

## Mass Times

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

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 12pm.

(Exposition and Holy Hour start at 10:30am followed by Rosary at 11:20am)

**Spanish Weekday Masses-** Monday and Thursday at 7pm.

(Exposition and Holy Hour start at 5:30pm followed by Rosary at 6:20pm)

**Wednesday-** 6-7p - Holy Hour with Rosary.

**Saturday-** Vigil 5:00 pm; 7pm Spanish in Jesup.

**Sunday-** 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm (Spanish); 2:00pm Spanish in Jesup.

**Confession-** Weekdays during Holy Hour, Saturday 4:15-4:45pm & By Apt.

### **Bible Study**

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

### **OCIA Classes Wednesday Evenings: 7-8:30p in Social Hall**

For Catholics and non-Catholics who wish to gain knowledge and information about the Catholic faith. The classes are also for those Catholic adults and high schoolers that have not completed their sacraments. The classes begin in September and will be completed by Easter. For additional information please call the office.

### **Religious Education**

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

### **Matrimony**

Arrangements must be made at least 6 months in advance of the proposed date. Participation in a marriage preparation program is required. Couples contemplating marriage MUST meet with the priest before setting a date.

### **Baptism**

For a child to be baptized, you must be attending Mass regularly, attend a Baptism class and fill out a registration form. **Classes are held the last Sunday of every month at 1pm and must be completed prior to scheduling baptism date.** One Godparent must be an active Catholic and attend class as well. A copy of the Child's Birth Certificate is needed at time of registration. Please contact the Office for scheduling.

### **Anointing of the Sick**

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

### **Prayer Ministry**

The Prayer Ministry provides prayer support to our parishioners and to the community. There is a Prayer Intention book at the back of the church for you to write your prayer request or you can make a prayer request by email: [ssfmccprayerministry@gmail.com](mailto:ssfmccprayerministry@gmail.com)

### **Active Parishioner Status**

Each year we receive many requests from parishioners to qualify for weddings, be godparents or sponsors for the Sacrament of Confirmation, Communion and Baptism. An active member is one who is properly registered with the Parish office, regularly gives offertory, attends parish activities when possible and most importantly faithfully attends Mass on Sunday's and Holy days of Obligation. Even though you attend Mass, if you are not registered with the Parish, we have no information about you and you are not eligible to be Sponsors, Godparents, etc. While assessments of an inquirer's status will be made individually, the above are the main factors that will be considered in making that determination.