

# *St. Stephen Parish* *Celebrates Fifty-Nine Years*

451 Eucalyptus Drive, San Francisco, California 94132  
Parish Office: 681-2444 • Parish School: 664-8331 • FAX: 681-7843

## Pastoral Staff

**Rev. Joseph Walsh**  
Pastor

**Rev. Leonard Calegari**  
**Rev. Edward Murray**  
Retired - In Residence

**Rev. Gary West**  
**Rev. Dan Rosen**  
Permanent Deacons

**Dr. Ruby Buffin**  
**Thu-Ha Rae**  
Pastoral Associates

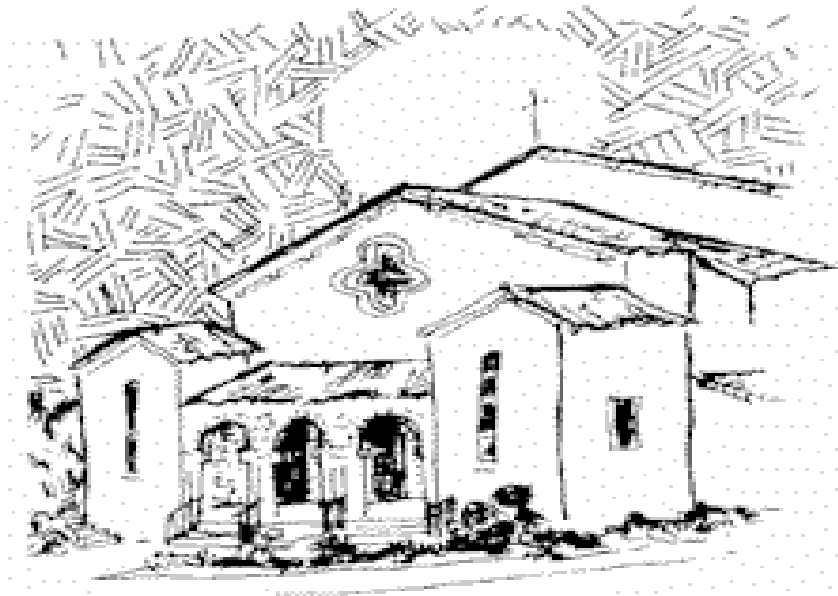
**Mrs. Sharon McCarthy Allen**  
*Principal*

**Jim Cook**  
*Parish Manager*

**Christopher Candelaria**  
**Griselda MacDonald**  
**Amy Moehler**  
**Teresa Proano**  
**Kristine Sinajon**  
**Angela Zullinger**  
*Musicians*

**Christian Fernandez**  
*Youth Minister*

**Jan Almeida**  
*Bookkeeper*



### **RCIA**

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults is a process of formation and instruction that enables an adult person (18 years and older) to learn about the Catholic Faith and to seek full initiation through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. For further information about RCIA call the Parish Office.

### **Marriage**

By diocesan rule, arrangements for weddings need to be made by the bride and groom 6 months in advance of their wedding date. The marriage date is confirmed after the completion of the preparation process. Please contact our pastor to participate.

### **The Sick**

If you, a relative or friend are hospitalized or unable to attend church due to sickness or age, and would like a visit and/or Holy communion, please notify the Parish Office

### **Infant Baptism**

Expectant or new parents wishing to have their children baptized at St. Stephen should contact the Parish Office at least two months before the desired date of baptism to complete the

baptismal preparation session. Godparents are required to attend. The session is held at 10:00am on the first Saturday of the month. Please call the Parish Office for more information.

### **Sacrament Of Reconciliation**

Saturdays from 3:30 - 4:20 pm or by appointment.

### **Faith Formation**

We offer classes for children in grades 1- 8 to grow in love of God and community, including preparation for First Reconciliation, First Communion for children in grade 2, and preparation for Confirmation in grade 8. Classes are held on Monday afternoon from 3:45 - 5:00 p.m. For more information please contact the Parish Office.

### **Children's Liturgy of the Word**

We celebrate Children's Liturgy of the Word on Sunday during 9:30AM Mass. Registration is not required, children age 3 to 8 may participate.

### **Mass Schedule**

Weekdays:

8:00 am

Rosary and Devotions after  
the 8:00 am Mass

Saturday:

8:00 am & 4:30 pm (Vigil)

Sunday:

8:00, 9:30, 11:30 am & 6:45 pm

*The Ascension of the Lord*  
*May 24, 2009*

**Our Liturgical Week**

**Monday, May 25**  
8:00 a.m. Fr. Walsh/Jimmy Williams

**Tuesday, May 26**  
8:00 a.m. Fr. Calegari/Viola Rillo Shallcross

**Wednesday, May 27**  
8:00 a.m. Fr. Murray/Seamus McGee

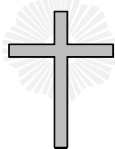
**Thursday, May 28**  
8:00 a.m. Fr. Calegari/Andres B. Caunan

**Friday, May 29**  
8:00 a.m. Fr. Walsh/Beatriz Ramos Caunan  
**Bingil**

**Saturday, May 30**  
8:00 a.m. Fr. Murray/Jeanne Connelly  
3:30 p.m. Fr. Murray/Reconciliation  
4:30 p.m. Fr. Murray/Dolores Murphy

**Sunday, May 31**  
8:00 a.m. Fr. Walsh / \_\_\_\_\_  
9:30 a.m. Fr. Walsh/For the Parish  
11:30 a.m. Fr. Sauer/Aine O'Brennan  
6:45 p.m. Fr. Calegari/ \_\_\_\_\_

Please remember:



**Bennie DeGeer**  
**Mary Elizabeth Henry**

Who recently died in the peace of Christ. Our sick and homebound are in continual need of our prayers, please remember them in prayer.

**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** -- This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven (Acts 1:1-11).

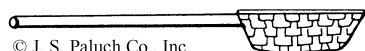
**Psalm** -- God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord (Psalm 47).

**Second Reading** -- God seated Jesus at his right hand in the heavens (Ephesians 1:17-23) or Ephesians 4:1-13 [1-7, 11-13].

**Gospel** -- The Lord Jesus was taken up into heaven and took his seat at the right hand of God (Mark 16:15-20).



**Christian Giving**



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**Special Collection**  
**Next Weekend**

A second collection will be taken at all masses next weekend, May 30 and 31 for ... **St. Vincent de Paul Conference (Local)**

**Our Week at a Glance**

**Monday, May 25** Office Closed, Memorial Day

**Tuesday, May 26**  
8:00 a.m. Student Elections/Temp. Bldg.  
6:00 p.m. Youth Group/Parish Office  
7:00 p.m. Grief Group/Parish Office

**Wednesday, May 27**  
11:45 a.m. Hot Lunch/Temp. Bldg.

**Thursday, May 28**  
1:30 p.m. Pep Rally/Temp. Bldg.  
7:00 p.m. RCIA/Parish Office

**Friday, May 29**  
12:00 noon Art Project/Temp. Bldg.  
8:00 p.m. Gamblers Anonymous/  
Parish Office & EC

**Saturday, May 30**  
8:30 a.m. Saturday Morning Study  
Group/Marian Room

**Sunday, May 31**  
4:00 p.m. Youth Group/Temp. Bldg.

**The Ascension of the Lord** May 24, 2009

Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.

-- Mark 16:16

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

Monday: **St. Bede the Venerable;**  
**St. Gregory VII;**  
**St. Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi;**  
**Memorial Day**

Tuesday: **St. Philip Neri**

Wednesday: **St. Augustine of Canterbury**

Thursday: **Orthodox Ascension; Shavuot (Jewish (observance) begins at sundown**

Saturday: **Vigil of Pentecost**

**Sick Relatives & Friends** Please pray for the sick and homebound of our community, and for all in the book of the sick. May they know the healing touch of Jesus.

William Applegate, Natividad Austria,  
Irene Buscovich, Elena Carr, James Collins,  
Bernard Curran, David Douglas, Msgr. Bruce Dreier,  
Dan Gilson, Art Hazlett, Nellie Jocson,  
Elizabeth Kauss, Miguel Mendoza,  
Maggie McDonald, Irin Mullen, Mercy Newman,  
Kylie O'Leary, Stephanie Patty, Pedro Pons,  
Marsha Potolo, Joyce Peterson, Sister Pat Phelan,  
James Roach, Delores Robinson, Ian Taylor,  
Robert Thoel, Loretta Tribulato, Richard Voyles,  
Maria Elena Varela, and Mary Windrow.



## Pastor's Notes

Dear Parishioners,

May 24, 2009

We have two celebrations this weekend: the Ascension of the Lord and Memorial Day. Memorial Day goes way back. It started right after the Civil War in the 1860's. The Ascension goes back to the time of the Apostles almost two thousand years ago and marks the final return of Jesus Christ to the realm of God we call heaven.

"He was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight." We shouldn't take this graphic image in today's first reading in a hyper-literalistic way; Jesus didn't undertake a journey into space. Going at the speed of light, Jesus would scarcely have yet reached two thousand years later, the outer rim of our galaxy. The image of Jesus being "taken up into heaven" (Gospel) is meant to awaken in us the hope that there is a way of life that can lift us above the mundane, and offer us a peace and wholeness that seems always to elude us.

Jesus' disciples were not ready for his departure. "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom of Israel?" They meant an external, politically and militarily dominant kingdom. Even at this late hour they misunderstood Jesus and what he was all about. They would need the Holy Spirit of Pentecost to help them understand once and for all.

Haven't we Catholics made some pretty big mistakes about Jesus Christ and his message? In our history are tales of promoting our religion by forced baptisms and trampling over the dignity and cultures of whole civilizations. Religion can be a dangerous weapon and needs to be understood properly.

Even after two thousand years have we got it right? If we were not Catholic would we live differently? Does being Catholic make life more meaningful, more peaceful? What difference does our faith make? Will things ever come together for us in some

whole and meaningful pattern?

Not only the pictures of war and terrorism on our TV screens each evening, but the alarming economic recession that affects our daily lives, make us pray that the Holy Spirit will come alive in all of us and help us live in peace as genuine Christians.

*Your Pastor,*

*Fr. Joe*

### For New and/or Expecting Parents

Our next pre-baptismal preparation class for new and/or expecting parents and godparents will be Saturday Jun 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Marian Room. The class is required for all new parents prior to baptizing their child. Please call the Parish Office to register for this class.

### CARITAS

Caritas is providing Eucharist to the sick and home-bound of our parish community. If you or someone in your family would like to receive the Eucharist in your home, please call the parish center at 415 681-2444 or you may call Ken Fambrini direct at 415 254-8464. You will be visited by the Eucharistic minister nearest your home.



### St. Stephen Altar Servers

Our special "thanks" to our student Altar Servers who faithfully continue to volunteer their time and talent to our parish. Our Altar Servers for **May 11 thru 17** were:

**Michaela Serafica, Lisa Lie,  
Clare Casey, Kathleen Glasser,  
Caitriona Cassidy, Isabella Cerri,  
Alexa Martinez, Noelle Cinco,  
Matthew Hazelwood, Casey Stuart,  
Fiona Smith, Peter Goudy,  
Thomas McGovern, Michael Desmond,  
Danny Casey, Jennifer Montemayor,  
Erica Hipp, Marisa Pashby,  
Emily Hipp and Olivia Abad.**

**Thank you!**

**Mark Your Calendar**

**Tomorrow! Monday, May 25, 2009** Memorial Day Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. at Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery in Colma by Archbishop George Niederauer. A shuttle will be available from the front gate from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

**May 30, 2009** Epiphany Church at 827 Vienna St. will hold its **Annual Rummage Sale** in the school yard from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**May 31, 2009** **The Bloodmobile** returns to St. Stephen to collect your life giving gift.

**June 3, 2009** **Spring Parish Luncheon** Alma Via of San Francisco will host their annual parish luncheon from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Please join them for a 3 course lunch (free) and entertainment. RSVP by May 29th to 415 337-1339.

**June 23, 2009** Our **50+ Club** ventures off on a day trip to the River Rock Casino in the beautiful Alexander Valley. Note; this popular adventure is sold out. Watch this space for an announcement regarding a return trip to the fabulous Red Hawk Casino in Placerville.

**September 13, 2009** Our **Parish Picnic** will once again be held at Blackberry Farm.

**St. Stephen 50+ Club**

Our next meeting is Monday, June 8th at 12:30 p.m. We will meet in our Temporary Building. (Contact: Helga D'Arcy at 731-8211).

**HOSPITALITY MINISTERS  
for the 9:30 a.m. mass.**

Today, Sunday, May 24 - Stewardship  
Sunday, May 31 - Ophelia Cabatic  
Sunday, June 7 - Francie Pasquini



**OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS**

**Weekly collection goal.....\$ 8,000**  
**Past weekend collection (5/17).....\$ 7,141**  
**Year to Date Goal.....\$401,000**  
**Year to Date.....\$354,243**

Thank you! Your continued generosity to our Parish is critical and never goes unnoticed.

**March 2009 Stewardship, A Way of Life**

**Thank you for your generous support of our parish.**

<u>Income</u>	This Year	Last Year
Collections/Sacraments —	\$ 40,157	
e-Contribution Collections —	\$ 3,581	
Monthly Maintenance — —	\$ 2,431	
Other Unrestricted — — —	\$ 2,305	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 48,474</b>	<b>\$58,764</b>
<u>Expenses</u>		
Salaries & Benefits — — —	\$54,542	
Heating, Lighting & Power —	\$ 4,187	
Water/Wastewater — — —	\$ 713	
Telephone — — — — —	\$ 1,755	
Refuse — — — — —	\$ 1,938	
Property Maintenance —	\$ 6,687	
Worship & Parish Life —	\$ 6,961	
General & Administration —	\$ 3,126	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 79,909</b>	<b>\$88,655</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>(\$31,435)</b>	<b>(\$29,891)</b>

**Together we make a great team!** Yes, St. Stephen parishioners, we're more than half way to our AAA goal of \$69,300. Thanks to the generous support of the following donors, we have now raised 52 percent of our AAA assessment or \$36,613! A special thank you this week to:

- Josephine Ambrose
- Anonymous
- Marie & John Duggan
- Diane & Al Gragnani
- Rosa & Justo Lopez
- Shannon & Stan Raggio
- Lorraine Rinaldi
- Virginia M.Y. Wong

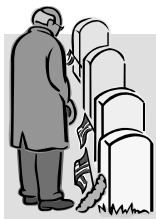
**One hundred and forty-four** St. Stephen families and individuals have stepped up to the plate to contribute to AAA in 2009. This includes **44** families who are new to AAA this year and **30** families who have matched or exceeded Father Walsh's \$500 AAA contribution. We are so grateful for your generosity.

When you support AAA, you are helping to support the Archdiocesan work in our community including chaplains in our hospitals, scholarships for children and families in need, assistance for our elderly, help for the homeless, outreach to youth, young adults and disenfranchised Catholics.

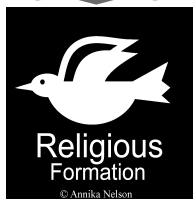
Remember, just \$72 or \$6 a month from every parish family will enable us to meet our goal.

## Memorial Day Mass

The Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of San Francisco invite you to share Memorial Day Mass tomorrow, Monday, May 25, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. mass will be celebrated at Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery in Colma by Archbishop George Niederauer in Holy Cross Mausoleum. A shuttle will be available from the front gate from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.



You are all invited to spend time this Memorial Day at your Catholic Cemeteries in Colma, Menlo Park, Half Moon Bay, and San Rafael and join in remembrance and prayer for all who are buried in these sacred grounds. For more information, please call 650 756-2060 or e-mail



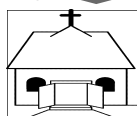
## Special Religious Education Classes

The Religious Education Office of the Archdiocese of San Francisco sponsors classes for children and adults with special challenges. The sessions which take place within the city of San Francisco are currently:

**\*St. Gabriel Parish (grade school children). Classes on Saturdays from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.**

**\*St. Cecelia Parish (adults/pre and post Confirmation). Sessions of monthly sharing on Sundays from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.**

According to the individual need, other sites and schedules are possible. For more information, please contact: Sr. Julie O'Neill, BVM, Coordinator of Special Needs for the Archdiocese of San Francisco at 415 614-5655.



## Welcome to Our Parish

**Our warmest welcome to all who celebrate with us.** If you are new to our parish, we invite you to register and learn more about our many parish ministries and organizations. You may phone the Parish Center at 681-2444 or register online at [www.saintstephenSF.org](http://www.saintstephenSF.org)!

## An Ode to Summer And Automatic Payments

Summer is almost here  
The long, lazy season  
The best time of year  
Warm days beckon  
Whoops there's the fog!  
Time to leave town  
Don't forget the dog

Pack your sunscreen and sandals  
And something to read  
Two weeks will fly by  
With astonishing speed  
But what of your Church  
That you so dearly love  
your God and your friends  
Of which we speak thereof  
We will continue to pray  
For you and yours  
that you take time to relax  
and forget most of your chores  
But if you want to keep giving  
While you are away  
Sign-up for e-Contributions  
You can do it today!

Get ready for summer!

Sign up for *e-Contributions* and contribute safely, simply and automatically to St. Stephen Church. You decide how much and how often to give in advance and arrange to have the amount either automatically deducted from your checking account or charged to your credit card. To register on-line, visit [www.e-paluch.com](http://www.e-paluch.com).

## Summer Recreation Leagues

CYO is offering a fun opportunity for kids to participate in our Summer Recreation Programs: Coed Volleyball League, May 26 - July 2; Boys & Girls Basketball Leagues, July 7 - August 13; Gaelic Football League; June 1 - July 9; Girls Volleyball Day Camps and Boys & Girls Basketball Day Camps; various summer sessions. All youth who are entering the 3<sup>rd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grades this fall (2009) are eligible.

All games/practices will be held in San Francisco parish and city gyms. To register:

1. Sign up with your Parish/School Athletics Director.
2. Register online or download a registration form at [cyo.cccyo.org](http://cyo.cccyo.org) and mail to address on form.
- or 3. Call 415 972-1252 to obtain forms or for more information.