

ST. STEPHEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

SPREADING THE LIGHT OF JESUS CHRIST

SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass Schedule (church)

Monday—Saturday 8:30 a.m.

Saturday Vigil 4:30 p.m.

Sunday 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.

and 5:30 p.m.

Livestreamed Masses — Daily Mass and Sunday at 11:30 a.m.

Adoration (chapel)

Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Reconciliation (chapel)

Monday and Friday after the

8:30 a.m. Mass.

Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.

Saturday at 2:45 p.m.

Church Office/Pastoral Care:

(813) 689-4900

School: (813) 741-9203

Faith Formation:

(813) 671-4434

Maintenance: (813) 734-5877

10118 Saint Stephen Circle

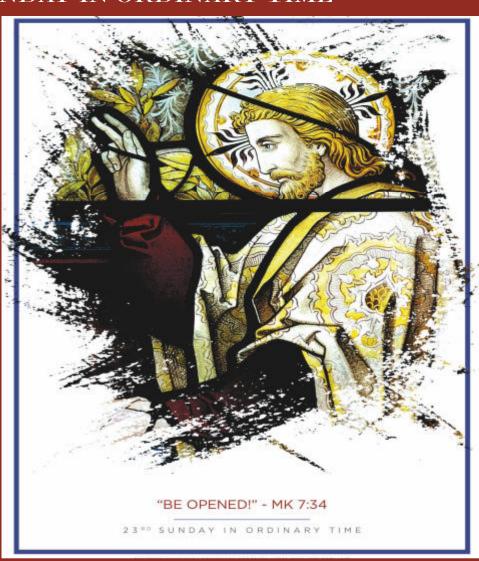
Riverview, Fl 33569

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@sscsmustangs and @sscsfl.org



LABOR DAY MASS 10:00 A.M.

Fr. Dermot Dunne — Pastor — Fr. Izzie Hernandez — Parochial Vicar

Rev. Mr. Ed Dodenhoff—Deacon

Rev. Mr. Mike Ryba—Deacon

Rev. Mr. Mike Sweeney—Deacon

ST. STEPHEN, PRAY FOR US

The Sanctuary Lamp

September 4 to 10, 2021

For the 51st Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ward.

If you are interested in having the sanctuary lamp burn in honor or in memory of a loved one,

please call (813) 689-4900.

Monday

Labor Day

Church Offices Closed

10:00 a.m. Pray for all those who labor.

Tuesday

8:30 a.m. Pray for Robert Hudack (RIP).

6:30 p.m. Blue Mass

Wednesday

8:30 a.m. Pray for vocations.

Thursday

8:30 a.m. Pray for Denise Lee (RIP).

Friday

8:30 a.m. Pray for Justin Ywanauskas (LIV).

Saturday

8:30 a.m. Pray for John Zielinski (RIP).

4:30 p.m. Pray for The Jean-Pierre Brothers (RIP).

Sunday

7:30 a.m. Pray for the parishioners.

9:30 a.m. Pray for James Andrew Emminger (RIP).

11:30 a.m. Pray for Bob Milbrandt (RIP).

5:30 p.m. Pray for William Patrick Sexton (RIP).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 2021

September 7—Blue Mass

September 10—Young Adult Adoration—XLT Praise and Worship (second Fridays)

September 11—Day of Prayer Retreat and Monthly Pro-Life Rosary (second Saturdays)

September 12—Faith Formation Classes Begin and One Blood Drive

September 18— St. Vincent de Paul Annual Tea

September 18-19—Unbound speaker Fr. Gillespie

October 2021

October 2—Columbiettes BUNCO Night

October 2—Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Training

October 2 and 3—Underwear Sunday Collection

October Weekend Masses—Pro-Life Rosary Decade

October 15—Community for Women Father/Daughter Dance

November 2021

November 2— All Souls Day Mass

November 6—Men's Club Golf Tournament

November 14—One Blood Drive

December 2021

December 3 to 4—24 hour Exposition—A Day With The Lord

December 7 & 8—Immaculate Conception Masses

December 9—Eastern Hillsborough Community Band Concert

December 14—Advent Penance Service

December 16—Christmas Concert

This schedule is subject to change.

For more information, please visit our full calendar of events on our website at https://ststephencatholic.org/.

SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading

Is 35:4-7a

Thus says the LORD:

Say to those whose hearts are frightened:

Be strong, fear not!

Here is your God,

he comes with vindication;

with divine recompense

he comes to save you.

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened,

the ears of the deaf be cleared;

then will the lame leap like a stag,

then the tongue of the mute will sing.

Streams will burst forth in the desert,

and rivers in the steppe.

The burning sands will become pools,

and the thirsty ground, springs of water.

Second Reading

Jas 2:1-5

My brothers and sisters, show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ.

For if a man with gold rings and fine clothes comes into your assembly,

and a poor person in shabby clothes also comes in, and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Sit here, please,"

while you say to the poor one, "Stand there," or "Sit at my feet,"

have you not made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil designs?

Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters.

Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he promised to those who love him?

Gospel

Mk 7:31-37

Again Jesus left the district of Tyre and went by way of Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, into the district of the Decapolis.

And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment

and begged him to lay his hand on him.

He took him off by himself away from the crowd.

He put his finger into the man's ears

and, spitting, touched his tongue;

then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him,

"Ephphatha!"— that is, "Be opened!"—

And immediately the man's ears were opened,

his speech impediment was removed,

and he spoke plainly.

He ordered them not to tell anyone.

But the more he ordered them not to,

the more they proclaimed it.

They were exceedingly astonished and they said,

"He has done all things well.

He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

Today's readings are from the Sunday Missal-Prayerbook and Hymnal for 2021.

A NOTE FROM DEACON MIKE RYBA



I am quite sure most of us can remember where we were and what we were doing when significant events took place in American history; the first moon landing, President Kennedy's assassination, the election of our first African American President. The attack on the twin towers, is no exception. It will be 20 years ago this September 11 and for many it seems like yesterday.

As a country, we came together; One Nation, Under God, Indivisible. The principles on which our great nation was founded were in full display in the coming weeks and months, as we all become one in helping to recover from arguably, the most devastating experience in our recent history.

Here we are 20 years later and other devastations have come to our shores; coronavirus and civil unrest. Unfortunately, those same values that we all rallied around in 2001 seem to be drawing us further away from one another in 2021. The commonality between the two though are those heroes who responded on 9/11 and continue to respond today namely, our first responders, medical personnel, policeman, firefighters and military.

Each day, these courageous men and women continue to put their own welfare, their own safety on the line so that each one of us can continue to enjoy the freedoms that we have been blessed with. These freedoms that we sometimes take for granted. Whether these heroes are running into a burning building, keeping our shores safe or helping to stem the tide of an infectious disease, they deserve our respect, our love and our thanks.

So that we do not forget our modern-day heroes, St. Stephen will once again be hosting the annual Blue Mass, on Tuesday, September 7 at 6:30 p.m. We will be honoring those who continue to protect us as well as remember those heroes who have gone home to the Lord. I encourage you to invite first responders, doctors, nurses, police, fire and military personnel so that we can show them how much their service means to us as individuals and as a community.

I would also like to invite you to a self-guided Day of Prayer Retreat on Saturday, September 11, beginning at 7:45 am to 4:00 pm. This is another great way to pray for and thank those heroes in our lives as well as to pray for the well-being of our country. If we once again come together as One Nation, Under God, Indivisible, we can do great things to honor our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Through Him and with Him, we can help to change the world.

God's Peace and Blessings to all, today and always,

Deacon Mike Ryba

TEEN AND YOUNG ADULT







EDGE Night

Middle Schoolers, join us for our weekly EDGE nights starting Wednesday, September 15. We will meet in the Family Life Center from 6:45 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Life Teen Night

We are currently seeking volunteers to provide meals for Life Night. Find the St. Stephen Life Night food sign up on our website at https://ststephencatholic.org/highschool.

XLT Praise and Worship

Join us for adoration and more on Friday, September 10 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. XLT Praise and Worship will happen in the St. Stephen chapel.

Theology on Tap

Young Adults, join us for Theology on Tap on September 28 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at O'Brien's Irish Pub & Grill in Brandon, FL.

For further information or to volunteer, please contact

Eddie Gemma at (813) 671-4434 or eddie@ststephencatholic.org.

OUR PARISH SCHOOL

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a way of bringing children into a closer relationship with Christ through hands-on activities. We are in the process of having our atrium registered. The method for presenting it is simple: a passage is read from scripture, then the children ponder the meaning. After the Bible is read, the children interact with material to make it concrete. Children also practice nomenclature or naming items they would see during Mass and the other sacraments. The practical life component of the program is to prepare them to serve in the church as altar servers, sacristan, etc. Finally, children like adults can be drawn closer to God through the arts. Students will create maps, diagrams and other prayer reflecting creations. This Montessori approach feels like a mini retreat each week and the children have been very excited to visit the atrium in the East Hall of our school.







FAITH FORMATION

Adult Confirmation Program

"Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit."

The Adult Confirmation process is a wonderful interactive opportunity for Catholics who have not had the opportunity to receive the sacrament of Confirmation to complete their full initiation into the Catholic Church. Registration is now open. Classes are weekly on Sunday mornings and begin in October. The Confirmation celebration takes place annually and is arranged in accordance with the Bishop's calendar.

Requirements for Adult Confirmation Preparation

Candidates for this Sacrament should:

- Be a registered parishioner.
- Be a baptized Catholic providing a current baptismal certificate within the last 6 months.
- Have made their First Communion.
- If married, must have been married in the Catholic Church.
- Attend Sunday Mass on a regular basis.
- Have a Sponsor for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

To register, you are welcome to download the registration form from our parish website or stop by the Office of Faith Formation located at St. Stephen Catholic School (east wing). For more information, please contact Rosie Bridges at (813) 671-4434, Ext. 2500.

Faith Formation Friendly Reminders

Registration for Faith Formation 2021-2022 is still ongoing! Forms are available at the Office of Faith Formation or on our website at https://ststephencatholic.org/faith-formation-k-8.

Classes Begin Soon

Pre-K—Sunday, September 12 Kindergarten-Grade 6—Sunday, September 12 & Wednesday, September 15 Grade 7—Monday, September 13

Confirmation Grade 8 and High School—Monday, September 13 (Session A) & Monday, November 1 (Session B)

Supply List

Crayons

Glue

Pencils

Scissors

Makers

Colored Pencils

Tissues

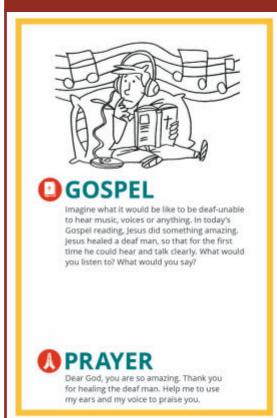
Sanitizer

Bottled Water

We kindly ask that if you are not vaccinated or do not have natural immunity, please continue to wear a mask on church property. For any question or concerns, call (813) 671-4434 or stop by our office.

Thank you for the faith foundation you already given to your children and may God Bless you for continuing educate your children in our Catholic Faith.

CHILDREN'S SECTION





Question of the Week

September 5, 2021

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Where in your life do you want greater openness?

Question of the week provided by Sadlier.





PARISH NEWS

Church Offices Closed

The church offices will be closed this Friday, September 3, and Monday, September 6. Further, daily Mass will be at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, September 6, instead of 8:30 a.m. Our offices open Tuesday, September 7, at 9:00 a.m.

Blue Mass

So that we do not forget our modern-day heroes, St. Stephen will once again be hosting the annual Blue Mass on Tuesday, September 7, at 6:30 p.m. We will be honoring those who continue to protect us as well as those heroes who have gone home to the Lord. We encourage you to invite first responders, doctors, nurses, police, fire and military personnel so that we can show them how much their service means to us.

Day of Prayer

Join us for a self-guided retreat day on September 11. The day will be built around praying the Liturgy of the Hours. We will be praying for world peace and in remembrance of the tragedy of 9/11 and in honor of first responders, doctors, nurses, police, fire and military personnel. To signup or for more information, please visit https://ststephencatholic.org/day-of-prayer-registration.

One Blood Drive

A One Blood Bus will be at our church on September 12 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. To schedule an appointment visit, https://www.oneblood.org/donate-now/donation-centers-list-select-time.stml?driveID=1016870. Signing up is not necessary but recommended.

Unbound

On September 18 and 19, please welcome Fr. John Gillespie who will be with us to celebrate Masses and tell us about the work of Unbound, a lay Catholic sponsorship ministry that helps children and elderly in 19 developing countries. To learn more, call (800) 875-6564 or visit Unbound online at www.unbound.org.



28th Annual Men's Club Golf Scramble 2021 SOCCER FREE KICK CHALLENGE

November 6, 2021

Sign In: Begins at 11:30 a.m.

Tee Time: 1:00 p.m.

Summerfield Crossings Golf Club

Register or become a sponsor of the event today! Visit https://ststephencatholic.org/mens-club! ST. STEPHEN SOCCER FIELD

SEPTEMBER 11, 2021

9:30 A.M. TO 11:30 A.M.

Boys and Girls - Ages 9-14

Sign up by Sept. 8!

Forms at the school

St. Vincent de Paul Annual Tea

Saturday, September 18, 2021

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

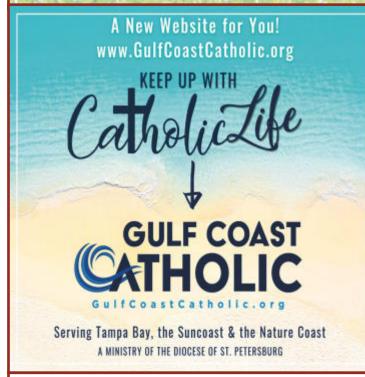
Family Life Center

LAST CALL! RSVP by Sept. 8

Raffle

Prizes!

For more information and to reserve your spot or host your table, please visit https://ststephencatholic.org/society-of-st-vincent-de-paul or call (813) 245-1171.



St. Vincent de Paul Annual Tea

Ladies and little ladies are invited to join us for tea. You may choose to invite your friends and family and be a table hostess or join someone else's table. RSVP by September 8. Come and enjoy entertainment by St. Stephen's Catholic School music group. The cost to attend is \$20 per person. Try your chance of winning one of the following raffle prizes: 55" Smart TV, iPad Air and a Magnolia and Vine Versa Purse. Contact Arlene Stein for reservations or more information at (813) 245-1171 or arstein@outlook.com. All of the proceeds benefit the ministry work of St. Vincent de Paul. If you cannot attend this event, please consider making an online donation. Please visit https://svdpriverviewfl.org to donate.

PARISH FINANCE

Donations

"God has no need of your money, but the poor have. You give it to the poor, and God receives it."

Saint Augustine

Parish

Scan the QR code below with your smartphone to make an online donation to our parish!



Mass Collections

Week of August 22, 2021 \$28,827.89

Annual Pastor Appeal

We have reached 96.08% \$370,176.55 pledged! \$337,297.86 paid! Thank you!



Scan the QR code above with your smartphone to make an online donation to the Annual Pastoral Appeal!

Debt Reduction/Monthly Debt

\$1,286.57 Debt Reduction towards \$40,000 Monthly Debt Payment.

CONTACT US

Call (813) 689-4900 and ask for one of the following, dial their extension or dial the alternative number.

Tom Doyle — Parish Manager — Ext. 3040

Lisa Lopez — Parish Secretary — Ext. 3060

Denise Moyer — Pastoral Care Assistant — Ext. 3210

Avery Thayer — Communications Coordinator — Ext. 3050

Susan Magann — Administrative Assistant — Ext. 3030

Robert Duffy — Maintenance — (813) 734-5877

Fr. Dermot Dunne — Pastor — Ext. 3010

Fr. Izzie Hernandez — Parochial Vicar — Ext. 3070

Rev. Mr. Mike Sweeney — Director of Music — Ext. 3260

Faith Formation — (813) 671-4434

Parish School — (813) 741-9203

HOTLINES

Diocese of St. Petersburg (727) 344-1611

Police — 911

Florida Abuse Registry Hotline — (800) 962-2873

Diocesan Victim Assistance Minister — (866) 407-4505

Girls and Boys Town Abuse Hotline — (800) 448-3000

Childhelp USA National Abuse Hotline — (800) 422-4453

Florida Elder Helpline — (800) 963-5337

Florida Council Against Sexual Violence — (888) 956-7273

Safe Environment Program Manager — (727) 344-1611, Ext. 377

St. Stephen Catholic Church (813) 689-4900

Career Transition Ministry— Career_Transition@ststephencatholic.org

Meals On Wheels—Meals on Wheels@ststephencatholic.org

Homebound Ministry— Homebound@ststephencatholic.org

Prayer Line—Prayer Line@ststephencatholic.org

Society of St. Vincent de Paul/Food Pantry—(813) 325-6440

Alcoholics Anonymous—(813) 933-9123

Pregnancy Center— (813) 631-4398

Looking for help? 211 Tampa Bay Cares, which offers local information and referral services, is available by calling 211 on the phone.







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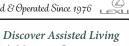
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