



## Divine Mercy Sunday April 16, 2023

Weekend Masses: Saturday (Vigil) 5:00 PM Sunday

8:30,11:00 AM and 5:00 PM

Reconciliation: Friday: 9:15 AM & Saturday: 3:00-4:00 PM

or by Appointment (Call Main Office)

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration - See pg 2

Parish Office (253) 631-1940 Faith Formation (253) 631-6175 13055 SE 192nd Street Renton, WA 98058 www.ststephenslife.com

Listing of Parish Staff on the back inside page

#### Words from Fr. Ed

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

Praise the Mercy of God, for it is the bottom line. In the end, it is His mercy that wins for us salvation. More than our fidelity it is His fidelity to us, showering us with undeserved love, that gains us the gift of heaven. May we all persevere in this grace and remain in His love.

What a beautiful week we had with Holy Week and then Easter Week and the Novena of Divine Mercy. The Resurrection opened up the gift of Mercy as Jesus breathed on the apostles and gave them the power to forgive sins. I hope all of you have had the chance to make a good confession. It's all the good thief needed to be the first in

paradise. After we celebrate Mercy Sunday, I'll be off on Monday (April 17th) to Israel where our friend Archbishop Domenico will be leading a pilgrimage of Italians from Assisi. I will arrive a few days earlier in order to pray for our youth. I especially hope to spend some time in the Upper Room invoking the Holy Spirit upon our youth in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. In addition, I pray for the whole Church to be renewed in the Holy Spirit. We need the fire of the Holy Spirit to bring life to all the gifts needed to evangelize the world, beginning in our small neighborhood. It is possible!

Please keep me in your prayers as well. There is unrest in Israel, so I hope to pass peacefully through and make it home safely to you. May Jesus bring peace to Jerusalem. As the Psalm says, "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!"

Yours in Christ.



## Excerpts From Pope John Paul II's Homily On the First Universal Celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday, 2001

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever! (Ps 117:1). Let us make our own the Psalmist's exclamation which we sang in the Responsorial Psalm: "The Lord's mercy endures forever!" In order to understand thoroughly the truth of these words, let us be led by the liturgy to the heart of the event of salvation, which unites Christ's Death and Resurrection with our lives and with the world's history. This miracle of mercy has radically changed humanity's destiny. It is a miracle in which is unfolded the fullness of the love of the Father who, for our redemption, does not even draw back before the sacrifice of His Only-begotten Son.

In the humiliated and suffering Christ, believers and non-believers can admire a surprising solidarity, which binds Him to our human condition beyond all imaginable measure. The Cross, even after the Resurrection of the Son of God, "speaks and never ceases to speak of God the Father, who is absolutely faithful to His eternal love for man. ... Believing in this love means believing in mercy" (Rich in Mercy, 7).

Let us thank the Lord for His love, which is stronger than death and sin. It is revealed and put into practice as mercy in our daily lives, and prompts every person in turn to have "mercy" towards the Crucified One. Is not loving God and loving one's neighbor and even one's "enemies," after Jesus' example, the program of life of every baptized person and of the whole Church?

His "Sacred Heart" has given men everything: redemption, salvation, sanctification. Saint Faustina Kowalska saw coming from this Heart that was overflowing with generous love, two rays of light which illuminated the world.

The two rays, [according to what Jesus Himself told her], denote blood and water (Diary, 299). The blood recalls the sacrifice of Golgotha and the mystery of the Eucharist; the water, according to the rich symbolism of the Evangelist John, makes us think of Baptism and the Gift of the Holy Spirit (See Jn 3:5; 4:14).

Through the mystery of this wounded Heart, the restorative tide of God's merciful love continues to spread over the men and women of our time. Here alone can those who long for true and lasting happiness find its secret.

Mary, Mother of Mercy, help us always to have this trust in your Son, our Redeemer. Help us too, St. Faustina, whom we remember today with special affection. Fixing our weak gaze on the divine Savior's face, we would like to repeat with you: "Jesus, I trust in You!" Now and for ever. Amen.

#### **Weekly Readings**

**April 16** Second Sunday of Easter (or Sunday of Divine Mercy) Acts 2:42-47; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31

April 17 Monday of the Second Week of Easter Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-9; Jn 3:1-8

**April 18 Tuesday of the Second Week of Easter** Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15

April 19 Wednesday of the Second Week of Easter Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21

**April 20** Thursday of the Second Week of Easter Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36

April 21 Friday of the Second Week of Easter Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15

**April 22 Saturday of the Second Week of Easter** Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21

**April 23 Third Sunday of Easter** Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11; 1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35

#### Parish Calendar

**Sunday April 16** 

8:30 am – 9:30 am **Mass** 11:00 am –12:15 pm **Mass** 

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm
Divine Mercy Holy Hour

Monday April 17

9:00 am – 10:00 am
10:00 am – 11:45 am
6:30 pm – 6:45 pm

Darling Dusters
Food Bank (drive by only)

Mass (live-streamed)

**Tuesday April 18** 

9:00 am – 12:00 pm 6:30 pm – 7:15 pm 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Scripture Study Mass (live-streamed) Scripture Study RCIA

Wednesday April 19

8:00 am – 12:00 pm
4:00 pm – 5:45 pm
6:30 pm – 6:45 pm

Campus Crew
Food Bank (drive by only)

Mass (live-streamed)

7:15 pm – 7:45 pm OurLady of Perpetual Help Novena

7:30 pm – 8:30 pm Sacred Story

7:30 pm – 9:00 pm Adoration & Reconciliation 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm Young Adults Group

**Thursday April 20** 

8:30 am – 9:30 am
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
7:00 pm – 7:30 pm
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
7:30 pm – 9:00 pm
7:30 pm – 9:00 pm
Knights of Columbus

Friday April 21

6:30 am – 7:30 am Men's Prayer/Reflection (Doors open at 6:15)

 $\begin{array}{lll} 8:30 \text{ am} - 9:30 \text{ am} & \textbf{Mass} \text{ (live-streamed)} \\ 9:00 \text{ am} - 10:00 \text{ am} & \text{Sacrament of Reconciliation} \end{array}$ 

9:15 am – 11:00 am Sacred Story 10:00 pm – 11:45 pm Food Bank

Saturday April 22

7:30 am – 8:30 am
8:30 am – 9:30 am
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Exodus 90 in Social Hall

Mass (live-streamed)
Sacrament of Reconciliation

5:00 pm – 6:15 pm **Vigil Mass** 

**Parish Financials -** Included are last weekend's collection, the weekend before, and the fiscal year to date through the last full month.

Weekly Collections			
	April 01 & April 02, 2023	March 25 & March 26, 2023	FY To date July 1 2022-March 31 2022
Collections-actual	32,899	13,344	755,802
Collections-Budget	18,680	19,378	834,576
Variance	14,219	(6,034)	(78,774)
*EFT-Actual	9,634	13,562	362,216
*EFT-Budget	5,632	9,201	387,963
Variance	4,002	4,361	(25,747)
Total Collections Variance	18,221	(1,673)	(104,521)

\*EFT= Electronic Funds Transfer (Online Collections)

New Fiscal Year began 7/01/2022



#### Share your Gifts and Talents at St. Stephen's

Here are a few needs at our parish. Contact Beth Nieva for more information (253-480-7105, bnieva@ststephenslife.com).

**Screen Operator** - Once a month run the screens at the Saturday 5 PM Mass or Sunday 11 AM Mass. Ideal candidates are comfortable using a PC, attentive to the action of the liturgy, able to confidently "go with the flow."

Altar Server Closet Keeper - Once a week straighten the Altar Server closet. Wash and iron garments periodically, as needed. The ideal candidate appreciates order and cleanliness. Work alone or with a friend on your own schedule.

**Altar Server Mentor** - Train young people in the skills and spirituality of altar serving. Ideal candidates like working with children and teens, are naturally encouraging, good communicators, and love the Holy Eucharist and the sacred action of the liturgy.

**Talents Team** - Assist with connecting volunteers to ministries. Make phone calls to welcome new people, send emails, and assist with follow-up paperwork.

**Welcome Team** - Bring a smile to the Narthex before and after Masses. Assist with simple guestions and welcome visitors.

**Greeter and Ushers** - Do you already attend the 8:30 am Mass? Joe could use your help. Assist families with seating, help with the collection and Communion. This is a great way to assist with the smooth flow of Mass and get to know others.



#### **Adoration Invitation**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Stephen's is now perpetual!

- Jesus is exposed daily from midnight to midnight
- No adoration during regularly scheduled Masses
- To sign up or for more information: visit the website:

https://ststephenslife.com/eucharistic-adoration or visit the adoration table in the Narthex after Mass. All hours have room for more adorers. Call one of the coordinators: Tina (206) 715-8462 or Bernie (206) 427-6085

#### Liturgy of the Hours https://ststephenslife.com/holy-mass-live-stream

Mon - Fri 6:30 -7:30 AM Holy Hour, Office of Reading Morning Prayer

Mon - Fri 12:00 PM Angelus
Mon - Fri 3:00 PM Divine Mercy
Mon - Fri 5:30 PM Evening Prayer
Sat - Sun 7:30 PM Evening Prayer

## Faith Formation Programs



Children and Teen Faith Formation and Sacrament programs K-12th grade are now underway.

For updates on our programs please access our website at: https://www.ststephenslife.co

m/faith-formation. Families - We need

Volunteers! Ask in prayer -- are you called to help in some way? If God says, "Yes!", then let us know. We will find the right place for you. We look forward to meeting you!! For our Faith Formation office contact Maria Trejo at mtrejo@ststephenslife.com or at (253) 631-6175, ext. 115. For K-12th grade and our overall Director, contact Shannon Battles at sbattles@ststephenslife.com or at (253) 480-7112, ext. 114.



Baptism Classes In-person classes to prepare for Infant Baptism are now available. Pre-registration is required to attend. Class size will be limited, and you must have proof of preregistration to be admitted. Please, only 2 parents, baby, 2 godparents (5 total) per family. Pre-

register by calling or emailing Teresa Wright, Pastoral Assistant for Infant Baptism at (253) 480-7106, ext. 120 or twright@ststephenslife.com. twright@ststephenslife.com



Parents: Please sign-up for Flocknote so you can get program and parish news, as well as emergency updates! To sign up for Flocknote, go to bottom of the first page of our website: ststephenslife.com.



St Stephens UPDATE

December 2, 2021



#### Do You Receive the Weekly Parish Update?

Receive the latest and most time-sensitive news from St Stephens directly on your computer or phone! Simply sign-up with Flocknote (see below) and you'll be in the know with upcoming events, changes in scheduling and other important details. All parish Flocknote subscribers receive the St Stephens Update!

#### Iron Sharpens Iron - Seattle Men's Conference April 29, St Michael's, Olympia

**Attention Men**: Our exciting speakers are: Bishop Frank Schuster, Auxiary Bishop of Seattle; Dr. Tom Curran, radio host & Catholic father of nine; Deacon James Thurman, founder and organizer of the Holy League Men's Conference in Oregon; Jon Leonetti, Catholic speaker & radio host. Nail down your discount price of \$35. You'll also get a delicious lunch and light breakfast goodies too. After March 30, the price is \$45. SeattleMensConference.org Enjoy a day of inspiration, challenge, prayer (Confession & Adoration too!) and engaging conversations. God is calling you to greatness. The conference will equip you to answer God's call in your life. May the Lord help each of us to be healed in any area of brokenness--and may you and I become the bolder Catholic men so desperately needed today for our family, Church & society. Grab your discount today. Then let's gather together at St. Michael Parish in Olympia on April 29 - appropriately in the Easter season. Whatever your age, the 10th Annual Iron Sharpens Iron Seattle Catholic Men's Conference is being held for you.

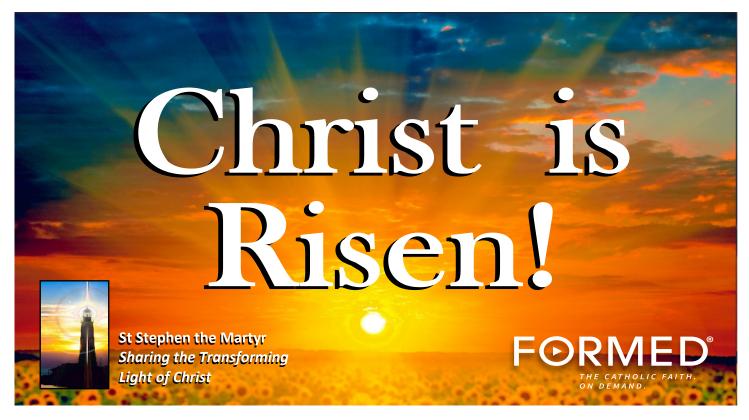


Teaching Mass with Fr Ed In March, Fr Ed focused on the Liturgy of the Word. For videos of his teaching go to https://ststephenslife.com/understanding-the-mass.



Terrific Tuesday Meals are Back! All are welcome for 6:00 PM dinner in the Social Hall at St. Stephens. Meals served on the following dates: April 25, May 30, June 27.





## St Stephen the Martyr Parish Has a Gift for You!

We are pleased to give you a free subscription to FORMED.org. Entertaining movies, enlightening programs, inspiring talks, and a great selection of popular ebooks - all just a click away! It's EASY and FREE to Register!

- **1.** Visit **formed.org** with a web browser.
- 2. Click on Sign Up as a Parishioner.
- 3. Under Create a New Account search for St Stephen the Martyr, Renton WA.
- 4. Click Next and register with your name and e-mail. Enjoy!





Homeschool Co-op

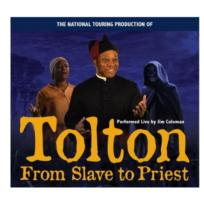












**Now Enrolling: St. Anthony School** - Are you interested in your child receiving a mission-based, community-focused Catholic education? For nearly 100 years, St. Anthony School has educated the whole child to better the world and serve others. St. Anthony is now enrolling for all grades for next school year (2023-2024). Please visit our website at <a href="https://www.sasr.org">www.sasr.org</a> or email Jean Dang at <a href="mailto:dang@sasr.org">dang@sasr.org</a> to set up a school tour or to learn more info.

#### **Home Schooling**

St. Stephen the Martyr has a Home school co-op for k-12. We offer support for those who are schooling at home and those considering the journey. Join us for a visit. For more information contact Stephanie Firth at <a href="mailto:sstm.homeschool@gmail.com">sstm.homeschool@gmail.com</a>

**April 16: Second Sunday of Easter:** In the Gospel today, Jesus stands in the midst of us and says: "Peace be with you!" When you consider donating to St. Vincent DePaul, say "Peace be with you!" especially to those who are poor and hungry. Next Sunday join us for coffee & donuts. All proceeds go directly to helping our neighbors need for rental and utility assistance. We receive 60-70 calls per month asking for help.

#### Faith Insights from Bishop Fulton Sheen

FEAR: Curiously enough, it is a fear of how grace will change and improve them that keeps many souls away from God. They want God to take them as they are and let them stay that way. They want Him to take away their love of riches, but not their riches – to purge them of disgust of sin, but not of the pleasure of sin.

TEMPTATION: Why is it that any time we speak of temptation we always speak of temptation as something that inclines us to wrong. We have more temptations to become good than we do to become bad.

#### **Books for Kids**

There is now a basket with children's books for use during daily and weekend masses. It will be kept in the back of the Church, by the water font during the week & by library door small table on weekends.

**Grief Ministry -** If you are grieving the death of a loved one, come find strength and compassion with the St. Stephen's Virtual Grief Support Group on Sunday, April 16th from 1:00-2:30 pm. Our topic will be "The Meaning of Healing / The Paradox of Acceptance". For more information and to register, please contact Sharon Rasmussen at srasmussen910@yahoo.com. "And He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to perform healing." Luke 9:2

**Your Food Pantry (Bank)** The Food Pantry continues to serve many families every week! Your generosity is a valuable part of this ministry and we thank you for your continued support!. As a reminder, the Pantry has been closed April 7th through the 14th. We will reopen Monday, April 17th.

**Friday Morning Men's Prayer & Reflection** Social Hall opens at 6:15 AM for coffee and donuts. Morning Prayer begins at 6:30 in the chapel, followed by reading and reflection of the coming Sunday Gospel. We conclude no later than 7:30 AM. Participants are encouraged to download the app, I-Breviary for use with the Morning Office of Readings.

#### **April 2023 Events for Life**

April 1-30- Prayer Partners stand vigil at the Cedar River Clinic, 263 Rainier Ave S, Renton. They stand on Wednesday 9:30-10:30am. Prayer partners are also there Thursdays 9:30-Noon. Care Net Ultrasound Mobile unit is in Renton from 9:30am - 2:30pm every Thursday each month. Partners also stand on Fridays 11:00am-Noon and Saturdays 9:30am-11:30am.

April 20th- Respect Life Ministry Meeting 7pm in the church office conference room.

**Tolton from Slave to Priest -** Friday April 21st at 8:00 pm. Vietnamese Martyrs parish 6841 South 180th Street Tukwila Washington 98188. Admission: Free Will offering - Your donation will help the youth in our parish attend world youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal this summer. Suitable for ages 10 and up. Vietnamese Martyrs parish 206-325-5626. Register at



https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=d5\_BJJiy8UGuL7n5AeMtplZJM3PgkQZNuiAjNuCUKPVUQjlXOFRRNUJRNUM5Wko3RUZMSTRSQ0EwQyQlQCN0PWcu&origin=QRCode

#### **Parish Information**

New to St. Stephen's? Welcome! Learn more about our vibrant community by visiting our web site at <a href="www.ststephenslife.com">www.ststephenslife.com</a>. Registration forms are online or may be obtained from the ushers and put in the collection basket or mailed in. **Bulletin Notices:** The **content deadline is 12:00 PM on the Friday** a week before the weekend you wish it to appear (8 days in advance). Notices about parish events or items of interest to the parish are welcome, however posting cannot be guaranteed. Email notices to: <a href="mailto:ourbulletin@gmail.com">ourbulletin@gmail.com</a>.

#### Main Office Phone: TEL 253-631-1940 / FAX 425-255-2943 Ten digit phone numbers listed below are direct lines.

Pastor	Fr. Edward G. White	For Fr. Ed contact his assistant, Betty Mencke 253-480-7103 (100)	
Parochial Vicar	Fr. Robert Antony	253-480-7111 (132)	FatherRobert@ststephenslife.com
Deacon	Dec. Carl Chilo		sstmdeaconcarlchilo@gmail.com
Deacon	Dec. Sonny Ungco		sonny.ungco@gmail.com
Deacon	Dec.lke Tarabi		ike.tarabi@outlook.com
Dir. of Parish Operations	Tom Jones	253-480-7114 (103)	tjones@ststephenslife.com
Pastoral Associate	Anne Merklin	253-480-7108 (126)	AMerklin@ststephenslife.com
Pastoral Assistant for Outreach	Darlene Simpson	253-480-7121 (127)	Dsimpson@ststephenslife.com
Office Manager/Pastor's Assistant	Betty Mencke	253-480-7103 (100)	bmencke@ststephenslife.com
Liturgy Coordinator	Janet Denby-Stewart	253-480-7115 (102)	JStewart@ststephenslife.com
Pastoral Care	Marijean Heutmaker	253-480-7116 (106)	Mheutmaker@ststephenslife.com
Bookkeeper	Debbie Blakey	253-480-7113 (101)	DBlakely@ststephenslife.com
Facilities & Parish Life Coordinator	Kim Anderson	253-480-7120 (129)	KAnderson@ststephenslife.com
Director of Faith Formation	Shannon Battles	253-480-7112 (114)	SBattles@ststephenslife.com
Youth Ministry	Shannon Battles (interim)		teens@ststephenslife.com
Young Adult Ministry/Talents Ministry	Beth Nieva	253-480-7105 (123)	bnieva@ststephenslife.com
Evangelization & Communications	Bill Swedberg	253-480-7107 (121)	bswedberg@ststephenslife.com
Baptism & Marriage	Teresa Wright	253-480-7106 (120)	Twright@ststephenslife.com
Little Saints Preschool	Shannon Battles	253-480-7112 (114)	sstm.littlesaints@gmail.com
Faith Formation Support Coordinator	Maria Trejo	253-631-6175 (115)	MTrejo@ststephenslife.com
St Stephen Housing Association	-	253-480-7122	office@ststephenhousing.org
SVDP Help-Line		206-767-6449	
Custodial Support	Soo Kim		

Marriage: Couples seeking Marriage must contact the church 9 months before their wedding date. Some preparation and Parish Registration are required before a date can be set. Contact Teresa Wright for details concerning marriage at (253) 631-6175, Ext. 120.

**Annulments:** (for those who are divorced): For compassionate and confidential answers to your questions and for help through the annulment process, please contact our parish Tribunal Advocate, Veronica Smith-Casem, at vsmithcasem@gmail.com or 425-301-0356.

**Baptism:** Preparation and Parish Registration are required for both Parents and Godparents/Sponsors. Baptisms are held monthly. Contact the Faith Formation Office for details (253-631-6175).

**RCIA** (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) For adults desiring to become Catholic, including those needing baptism. Contact Anne Merklin 253-631-1940 ext 126. sstmassociate@gmail.com

#### **Praying For Sick**

Renato Desiderio, Linda Marie Parker, Grace Ragonesi, Kelley Chaves, Angelina Rivera, Leila Rivera-Abada If you or a loved one would like to be included in the bulletin listing please contact Betty Mencke at 253-631-1940.

#### **Recent Deaths**

Larry Kelly, Karen Gorg, Ann Erhart, Margie Voountarioso, Paulo Falaniko, Rita Canine, Tom Thiel, Maria Soto, Pat O'Connell, Joan Sevigny, Thomas Lorezca, Maria Coluccio, Joseph Marci, Adrian Perez, Walter Joseph Koczor, brother of Mary Kasprzyk, Terry Strom, Rose Heryla, Jim Steckler, Mary Ann Schofield, Violeta Castaneda, Mary Claire Duncan and Adrian Abada, Robert Paulsen, Ingeborg Hoffman (Brier)

#### Serving in the Military

Captain Philip Clay, LT Luke Carpenter (deployed), Major Stephen Snelling, Jack Cullers US, Zenaida Roth, Joey Buslon Poland, Pv. 2 Anthony Vogeler

To add names to the box, please email ourbulletin@gmail.com, or contact Betty Mencke, 253-631-1940. To contact the Prayer Chain, please see Teresa Wright, at 425-255 0301 or teresa2pray@gmail.com

Rachel's Corner: Hope and Healing After Abortion The Lord sets prisoners free; the Lord gives sight to the blind. The Lord raises up those who are bowed down. - Psalm 146: 7-8. When thoughts come to your mind regarding the day you were involved in an abortion decision, do they make you feel blind to hope, entrapped in regret and burdened with shame? Call for a compassionate, confidential conversation, and be free again. Registering now for our Virtual Healing Series. English: (206) 920-6413 / Español: (206)-450-7814 Email projectrachel@ccsww.org Visit us at www.ccsww.org/projectrachel or www.facebook.com/projectrachelww Project Rachel is a program of Catholic Community Services. You are loved with an everlasting love!



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