5th Sunday in Ordinary Time February 4th, 2024



ST. STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

4601 Neely Avenue Midland, Texas 79707

Phone: 432-520-7394 Fax: 432-520-7395

MISSION STATEMENT

Growing Friendships, Families & Faith

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00pm (English)
Sunday: 8:00am (English)
10:00am (English)
12:30pm (Spanish)
5:00pm(English)
7:00pm (Bilingual)

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon:7:00am & 5:30pm Tue: 7:00am & 5:30pm Wed: 7:00am, 12:15pm & 5:30pm

Thu: 7:00am & 5:30pm **Fri:** 7:00am, 12:15pm, & 5:30pm

Sat: 8:00am

ADORATION

Monday– Friday 7:30am-10:00pm



CONFESSIONS

SUNDAY:

7:30 AM to 8:00 AM 9:30 AM to 10:00 AM 11:45 AM to 12:30 PM 4:15 PM to 5:00 PM 6:30 PM to 7:00 PM

MON-FRI

6:45 AM to 6:55 AM 5:00 PM to 5:25 PM

WED & FRI

12:00 PM to 12:15 PM

SATURDAY:

7:45 AM to 8:00 AM 4:00 PM to 4:55 PM

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Bala Anthony Govindu

Deacons

Dcn. Leonard Hendon, Dcn. Luis Mata and Dcn. Fidel Saldivar

Religious Nuns

Madre Gertrudis Munoz Mendieta Hna: Leonila Torres Berrnudez

<u>Administrator</u>

Josie Brenner

Asst. Administrator

Annabel Wiesman

Director of Religious Education

Gretchen Lara

Youth Coordinator

Bridgette Costello

Director of Music

Gabriel Salgado

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday: 8:30am-5:00pm Friday: 9:00am-1:00pm

HEALING MASSES

Every First Saturday in English at 7pm

MISA DE SANACION

Cada ultimo Sabado en Espanol at 7pm

CANDLELIGHT PROCESSION WITH ROSARY

Every Friday night at 8:00pm

EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION

Every First Friday 8:00PM

Parish Website: www.ststephensmidland.com Parish Email: frontdesk@ssccmidland.com



Fr. Bala Sunday Reflection

The Call to Service in Suffering and Healing

On this fifth Sunday in ordinary time, we gather to reflect upon the Word of God, which speaks to us through the struggles and hopes, the healing and the service, as presented in the readings from Job, the Psalms, the First Letter to the Corinthians, and the Gospel of Mark.

In the first reading, from the Book of Job (Job 7:1-4, 6-7), we are confronted with Job's lament, a vivid portrayal of human suffering and the

fleeting nature of life. Job's despair is palpable as he speaks of his life as a "drudgery," filled with restless nights and endless suffering. His is a voice that might resonate with many today who feel burdened by their trials and tribulations, questioning the purpose of their suffering.

Yet, in the midst of this lament, the Psalm (Psalm 147:1-6) offers us a message of hope and healing. It reminds us that God is great and almighty, yet He is also compassionate, healing the brokenhearted and binding up their wounds. It is a powerful reminder that, in our own moments of despair, God is close, intimately aware of our suffering, and capable of healing our deepest wounds.

The second reading, from the First Letter to the Corinthians (1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23). Paul speaks of his compulsion to preach the Gospel, not as a boast but as a duty laid upon him. Paul's willingness to become "all things to all people" so that he might save some, illustrates the selfless nature of true discipleship. It challenges us to reflect on our own commitment to the Gospel, urging us to consider how we, too, are called to serve others and spread the Good News, even when it demands sacrifice and flexibility from us.

Finally, the Gospel of Mark (Mark 1:29-39) presents us with the healing ministry of Jesus. Here, Jesus heals Simon's mother-in-law and many who were sick or possessed by demons in Capernaum. But notably,

heals Simon's mother-in-law and many who were sick or possessed by demons in Capernaum. But notably, after a long night of service, Jesus retreats to a deserted place to pray. This action of Jesus is a profound lesson for all of us: the balance between service to others and the necessity of prayer and communion with the Father.

As we meditate on these readings, let us ask ourselves: How are we called to bring healing and hope to those who suffer in our communities? Are we willing to make sacrifices for the sake of the Gospel? How do we balance our service to others with our personal spiritual nourishment?

¡¡¡El examen de conciencia!!! 4 de enero 2024 Hermana Gertrudis Muñoz Mendieta I.C.A.S.



El examen de conciencia pretende desarrollar en nosotros un corazón sensible a las invitaciones de Dios y saber detectar las fallas que no permiten hacer vida el amor. Nos permite leer nuestra vida desde la persona de Jesús de Nazaret y ponernos en contacto con Dios desde y con lo más real de nosotros mismos. Dios está continuamente llevándonos hacia El en un modo y por un camino particular y original a cada uno de nosotros, del que no siempre estamos conscientes.

El examen es una forma de oración diaria, un ejercicio de discernimiento que nos ayuda a tomar conciencia de las invitaciones que Dios origina en nosotros a través de los diálogos, las actividades, los paisajes, los abrazos y los problemas que tenemos día con día. El examen de conciencia nos ayuda a desarrollar una sensibilidad cotidiana que me permita experimentar el amor de Dios y los deseos que nos conducen a una vida más plena.

El examen de conciencia consiste en recuperar cómo me fue en el día. No es un momento para juzgar mis actos, sino para tomar conciencia de mis actos. El examen puede hacerse mentalmente, pero mucho ayuda hacerlo escrito. Se recomienda hacerse diario o por lo menos una vez a la semana al final de la noche. Los pasos para realizar el examen de conciencia, recomendados por San Ignacio de Lovola, son los siguientes:

- A. Pedir luz y gracia para descubrir a Dios en lo vivido.
- B. Agradecer los dones del día
- C. Reconocer fallas (lo que sentí, lo que hice, lo que pensé)
- D. Si hubo fallas graves, hacer una oración de perdón
- E. Hacer un propósito para cumplir con su gracia

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 4th, 2024

| MASS | INTENTIONS |
|------|------------|
|------|------------|

Sunday February 4th- 5thSunday in Ordinary Time

†Angela Wiesman By A.J. & Marilyn

. Wachsmann

†Felice Moreno By Darrel & Annabel

Wiesman

10:00am For the Parish

†Claudio Arias By Familia 12:30pm

†Felice Moreno By Darrel & Annabel 5:00pm Wiesman

7:00pm

Monday February 5th- St. Agatha, Virgin & Martyr

†Max Jr. & Samantha Lucero By Family

†Manuela Ortega Chacon (Death Anniv.) By Family

. †Pilar Medrano Terrazas By Family 5:30pm †Cipriano Nunez By Connie Nuniz

†Felice Moreno By Darrel & Annabel

Wiesman

Tuesday February 6th-St. Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs 7:00am Melissa & John (Healing) By Family

†Felice Moreno By Darrel & Annabel

Joseph Johnson (HB) By Mom & Dad

5:30pm Wednesday February 7th

Ella V. Wakeley By Johnson Family 7·00am

†Albert & Caroline Sulak By Family †Manuela Ortega Chacon By Family †Pilar Medrano Terrazas By Family

12:15pm †Joe Carrasco by Hortencia Carrasco 5:30pm

Henry Wilson (HB) By Family

†Felice Moreno By Darrel & Annabel Wiesman Thursday February 8th- St. Jerome Emiliani, St. Josephine Balhia, Virgin

7:00am

Connie & Angela Lucero By Family

†Felice Moreno By Darrel & Annabel Wiesman

5:30pm Jeff Thummel (HB) By Edwards Family

First Friday February 9th

Rosa Rivas (HB) By Connie Nunez 7:00am

†Felice Moreno By Darrel & Annabel Wiesman

†Joe P. Lopez By Family 12:15pm

Antonio Aguilar By Aguilar Family 5:30pm

Saturday February 10th- St. Scholastica, Virgin

8:00am Rosa Rivas By Connie Nunez

†Felice Moreno By Darrel & Annabel Wiesman †Sue Wiesman By A.J. & Marilyn Wachsmann 5:00pm

Cruz & Juanita Muniz By Marilyn Wachsmann

Sunday February 11th- 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

†Kendra Delashaw By Anthony Percifull 8:00am

†Felice Moreno By Darrel & Annabel Wiesman 10:00am †Mary Angela Clee By Mother

12:30pm †Claudio Arias & †Elivorio Arias By Familia

5:00pm For the Parish

†Mary Okoh By Sharon Mendenhall 7:00pm

Upcoming Baptismal Classes / Próximas clases bautismales:

> February 11, 2023 / 11 de febrero del 2023

English: 2:00 - 4:30pm Español: 2:30 - 5:00pm

Please come by the Office and present a **Driver's License to Register**

Por favor vengan a la oficina parroquial y presenten la licencia para registrarse

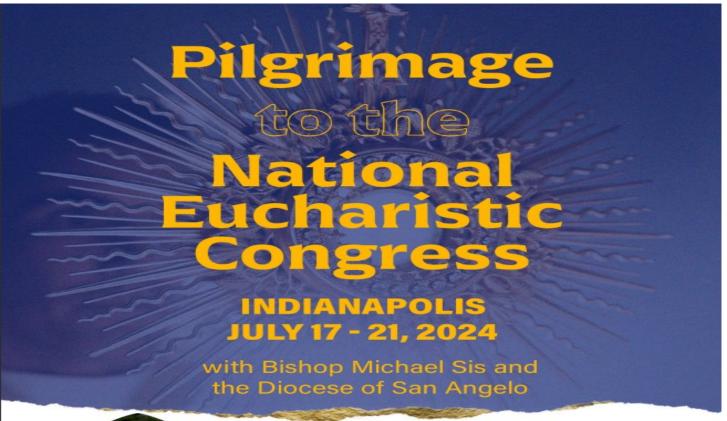
Please pray for the following: Henk Klaucke, Elizabeth Fritzl, Patricia Loira, Paulo Cesar, Regis, Sonia, Sanae, Joseph Mary Fasi, Alvaro Ramos & family, Joe T., Chris W., Cindy M., Kathleen S., Anthony R., Richard Schoel, Roberto L., Vasquez family, Isaiah & Victoria, Esther Estrada, Cecilia Livingston, Valarie Fink , Vanessa V. Betty, Randall, Beth B. Marcus, Marcus Jr. Mica & Brittany V., Eddie L., Aileen Paris Rodriguez, Karen Howe, Shashini Kumari, John Walker, Elizabeth Fritzl, Sammy R., Macaria R., Beth B, Lynda Sanchez., Anita P., Martha P., John W. Grace, Carly P., Olivia V., Frank Hartter, Fermin Salgado, Sokolowski family, Maria Salgado, J.J Hord, Bennie Hawkins, Justina Flayngeg, Quincy Jackson Jr., Terri Padilla, M. Gloria Escobedo – Chong, Elia R., Mateo F., Albert Lopez, Ty Hawkins, Ramona Hawkins, Tammy Seidenberger, Maria Ramirez, Socorro M., Christina M., Virginia M., Ian V., Emma Elia R., Frankie Hartter, Mario Ramirez, Axton, Sarah Beth Carrasco, Luke, Zac Curtis, Dayton Martinez, Contreras-Holguin family, Marisela R., Michael R., Luna R., Oscar O., Estela O. Brisa O, Joel Ybarra, Erica Hernandez, Andrea Emilia Bernabey, the Cáceres family. Evan Lujan, Jonathan Jaquez, Linda Q., John V., Mila Thorn, Britani Thorn, Jake Thorn, Joseph R Kiowski, Annette Robertson, Edgar Zapata, Ruben Hernandez, Sr., Leslie Curtis, Esteban M., Chandler. & Patti Garcia.

Email frontdesk@ssccmidland.com or call the office at 520-7394 to be added to the prayer list! If someone needs to be removed from prayer list please contact the office to remove request. Thank you!

Last Week Collections Week of 01.21.24-02.28.24

| Contributions: | Cash | Checks | Totals |
|----------------------------|------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Sat. 5pm 1st collection | \$1,527.00 | \$2,200.00 | \$3,727.00 |
| Sun. 8am 1st collection | \$763.00 | \$2,735.50 | \$3,498.50 |
| Sun. 10am 1st collection | \$1,636.00 | \$3,191.00 | \$4,827.00 |
| Sun.12:30pm 1st collection | \$3,398.16 | \$730.00 | \$4,128.16 |
| Sun. 5pm 1st collection | \$1,533.00 | \$2,285.00 | \$3,818.00 |
| Sun. 7pm 1st collection | \$339.00 | \$115.00 | \$454.00 |
| Daily Masses | \$177.77 | \$125.00 | \$302.77 |
| Online Giving | \$3,699.00 | | \$3,699.00 |
| Mailed-In Contributions | \$7,380.00 | | \$7,380.00 |
| | | GRAND TOTAL | \$31,834.43 |

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!





Participate in this pivotal moment in the Church and draw into a deeper intimacy with our Lord. Join our diocese by registering today! Scan the QR code or click Book Now to attend this historic event.









DATE/TIME: Saturday, February 17, 2024/ 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

COST/ATTIRE: \$20.00 per person/Casual BAND: "Emily & the Rumba Kings" (Ballroom, C & W, Swing, Latin, Variety) CATERER:NO DINNER SERVED

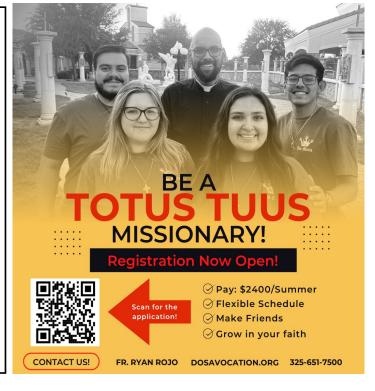
(Water and Ice Will Be Provided, You May Bring a Snack and a NON-Alcoholic Beverage)

Please remember to make reservations, if possible, for this dance So that we may have an accurate count of dancers.

NO ALCOHOL MAY BE BROUGHT INTO THE BALLROOM BY INDIVIDUALS

**NOTE: NO BYOB is allowed in the Gloria Denman Ballroom per church policy.

Reservations may be mailed to Club Dance, P. O. Box 7421, Midland, TX 79708. Reservation deadline is Thursday, February 15, 2024. For more information, PLEASE CONTACT our Reservations Coordinator at: permianmusic87@gmail.com. Please do not contact St. Stephens for information on this function as it is separate from the church. THANK YOU!





Friday, February 9, 2024 Cocktails at 5:30pm. Dinner at 6:30pm St. Ann's Youth Activity Center \$25 per person

The Knights of Columbus Councils in Midland wish to recognize and thank all Priests, Deacons, and Sisters for their service and dedication to the Catholic faithful in the Midland/Odessa deanery of the Diocese of San Angelo.

Please join us at this event to help show your appreciation to our local clergy!

ADMISSION TICKETS

Lenten Week?

Tickets to the event can be purchased at the St. Ann's Church office or by scanning the QR code here. Donations also welcome!



QUESTIONS? Contact Cory Rylander at 432.312.0206



Our 11 Week study session starts February the 7th and continues every Wednesday from 9:30-11:00 A.M. Class material can be purchased at the church office for \$15. Join us in St. Stephen's classroom #2. For more information, please call 432-559-2658 or 432-312-6669.

SE NECESITAN COORDINADORES DE MISAS:

Necesitamos Coordinadores de Misa para bodas y funerales. No es necesario que sea un coordinador de Misa, ya que lo capacitaremos. Si está interesado por favor póngase en contacto con Viviana Martinez a 817-249-9095.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER

Let us know your areas of interest. Let's serve our Parish Community together. Visit our website Ststephensmidland.com/volunteer to see where you might be interested in volunteering.

Exhibitor Booths for 2024 Diocesan Conference Day

Exhibitor Registrations are now open for booth reservation at the Diocesan Conference Day to take place on October 19, 2024 at the McNease Convention Center in San Angelo, Texas. Booth availability is limited to 20 vendors or exhibitors this year and the deadline to reserve your booth is April 19, 2024. The fee for booth reservation is \$30. Exhibitors must be a representative of either a non-profit organization. publishing company, or an independent vendor of gifts, foods, crafts, artworks, or other merchandise inspired by the Catholic faith. Each booth includes one table. cloth dividers, and a cloth backdrop. Exhibitors are responsible for the supply, maintenance, and merchandising of their own booths. You can reserve your booth at https:// sanangelodiocese.org/diocesan-conference-day.

CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

Catholic Men's conference taking place at Holy Family Catholic Church in Abilene TX on February 17th 2024. Keynote speaker is renowned speaker and catholic evangelist and former LAPD officer as seen and heard on EWTN: Jesse Romero. And our very own Most Reverend Bishop Sis. Kick off lent 2024 by living the first retreat of the Lenten season and aim for Manliness and Eucharistic Revival. Save the Date and visit WTXmen.com for updates as they come along.

Annual Awards Banquet - April 14, 2024

The Office of Evangelization and Catechesis for the Diocese of San Angelo will be hosting the Diocesan Annual Awards Banquet at Sacred Heart Parish in Abilene on April 14, 2024 from 12:30-3:30 p.m. This banquet recognizes the commitment and dedicated service of catechetical and youth ministry leaders and young people of the diocese. The event will include a meal, a speaker, and the presentation of awards/certificates. The cost per person is \$30. All participants are invited to attend the 11:30 a.m. Mass at Sacred Heart Parish in Abilene. For information about nominations and registration, please contact your Director/Coordinator of Religious Education or contact the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis directly at evangelizationcatechesis@sanangelodiocese.org. The deadline for registration and nomination submissions is April 5, 2024.

SAVE THE DATE! Reflection Day - May 9, 2024

Directors and Coordinators of Religious Education,
Coordinators of Youth Ministry, Campus Ministers, and
Catholic School Principals! Mark your calendars on May 9,
2024 for a day of reflection with the Office of Evangelization
and Catechesis. This day offers an opportunity for leaders to
reflect and discern in their ministries and also offers an
opportunity to connect with their peers. More information to
follow at a later date.

VOLUNTEERS FOR YOUTH NIGHT MEALS

We need volunteers to help with our youth night meal prep on Tuesday & Wednesday nights. If you are interested in learning more information please contact Gretchen@ssccmidland.com

Altar Server Training For New, Experienced, Advanced, and Master Servers

There will be two required trainings for all altar servers. Sunday Feb. 18, 20234 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm. Sanctuary of the Church'

Sunday March 17, 2024 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm. Sanctuary of the Church

All wishing to be servers must have received First Holy Communion.

For additional information or questions please contact:
Anne Hobbs
432-934-3192
behobbs47@gmail.com

Capacitación para monaguillos Para servidores nuevos, experimentados, avanzados y maestros

Habrá dos capacitaciones obligatorias para todos los monaquillos.

Domingo 18 de febrero de 20234 2:00 pm a 3:30 pm. Santuario de la Iglesia'

Domingo 17 de marzo de 2024 14:00 a 15:30 horas. Santuario de la Iglesia

Todos los que deseen ser servidores deben haber recibido la Primera Comunión.

Para información adicional o preguntas por favor comuníquese con:

Anne Hobbs 432-934-3192 behobbs47@gmail.com

KNIGHT'S OF COLUMBUS NEWS:

The Knights of Columbus would like to extend an invitation to all practicing Catholic men 18 years or older that are parishioners of St. Stephens to join the largest Catholic fraternity worldwide. At the Knights of Columbus, we teach men lessons in Charity, Unity and Fraternity. We are Catholic men striving to strengthen our families and communities in faith, to strengthen family bonds, to protect those that cannot protect themselves, and to serve those who need help - whether they are next door or halfway around the world. We put our faith into action! If you would like to learn more, please visit our website at http://www.kofc.org/join or you can visit with Marcos Ybarra, our Grand Knight @ 432-638-9097 or any Knight wearing a green vest

LOST AND FOUND

The Parish Office has been holding onto miscellaneous items found over time and going forward will only hold any items found on the property for two weeks. If you have lost an item in the past please contact the Parish office to describe and claim. Items left unclaimed over a two week period will be donated or sold.

ADVERTISEMENTS

If you would like to advertise your business, would like to put "In memory of", birthdays or anniversary's in our bulletin please call the office or email bulletin@ssccmidland.com for more information.

TO ALL MINISTRIES:

If you are needing a room / space for your meetings and or functions, PLEASE REQUEST BY GOING TO OUR WEBSITE AND FILL OUT THE FORM

A todos los ministerios:

Si necesita una sala / espacio para sus reuniones y/o funciones, POR FAVOR, SOLICÍTELO ACCEDIENDO A NUESTRA PÁGINA WEB Y RELLENE EL FORMULARIO:

St. Stephen's Facility Space Request Form | (ststephensmidland.com) For any other concerns, please feel free to call the Parish office at 432-520-7394.

BECOME A REGISTERED PARISHIONER

New Parishioners are welcomed! To become a Parishioner, Please register on our website ssccmidland.com



MASS COORDINATORS NEEDED

We are in need of Mass Coordinators for weddings and funerals. You do not have to be a Mass Coordinator as we will train you. If interested, Please contact Gina Ybarra by texting 432.230.4426

WEST TEXAS CAMPUS MINISTRY

INVITING COLLEGE STUDENTS IN
MIDLAND & ODESSA TO JOIN THIS
GROWING COMMUNITY ON YOUR CAMPUS!



QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

Sister Christina Chavez, CDP 432-215-8169 WTX-campusministry@sanangelodiocese.org

SERVING THE
CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION OF
UTPB, MIDLAND COLLEGE, & ODESSA COLLEGE



Helping Hands of Midland 1301 Brinson Lane Midland Tx. (432) 520-8900 www.helpinghandsmidland.com



Because we feel it is important that you know how and where your donations to Helping Hands are spent, here is what was done last week:

| Electricity | 9 families | \$ 5,269.01 |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Gas | 4 families | \$ 566.38 |
| Water | 5 families | \$ 2,898.18 |
| Rent | 16 families | \$33,942.03 |
| Medical | 1 family | \$ 929.70 |
| Total | | \$43,605.30 |

A few of the cases that we assisted last week:

Valerie is a 45-year-old since woman who works part time for a retailer. She only works part-time because she has an autistic son who suffers severe anxiety and cannot be left alone. She works evenings, when her 18-year-old son is at home to care for the child. She was getting increasingly behind on her mortgage but then when she came down with Covid and missed two weeks of work she reached a point where she was going under. She recovered from Covid, returned to work and managed to pay one month of her mortgage, but she was still served with foreclosure papers. We were able to get her caught back up by paying her January mortgage, and by also paying her February mortgage we will give her the opportunity to pay ahead on those monthly payments.

Gloria is a 57-year-old single woman who has worked hard all of her life, either doing retail, custodial, or fast food work. A few years ago her sister purchased a daycare, and Gloria went to work for her assisting in the care of the children. Early in January, her sister passed away unexpectedly and the business was closed, leaving her unemployed. She was concerned that, at her age it might be hard to find a job although she said she was still strong and could do just about anything. We offered her a few suggestions as to local retailers who employed older people and she planned to visit those places as soon as her visit with us was finished. We paid her January past due rent plus her February rent (since it was only days away from being due). We have no doubt that she will find a job very, very soon.

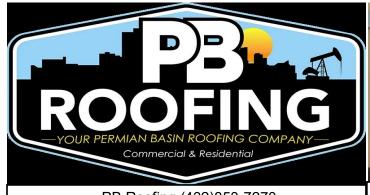
Wyatt is a young man (23 years of age) with a 2-year-old son. The woman he was living with became violent and attacked him. In fear he took his child to his parents house to get him out of the situation. The police were notified, she was jailed temporarily and then as a result of court proceedings she has to be out of the apartment within one week. With the changes in his living situation, Wyatt is moving into a 1 bedroom apartment that he and his son can afford on his now sole income. We paid his February rent so that he can afford the additional expenses relative to changing apartments.

Joanie broke her leg back in October and underwent surgery. She was (and still is) unable to put any pressure on it. She got behind on her rent as a result of time missed from work. She owed \$3,500 for the 3 months she had been out,. She is now working out of her house and has been able to catch up with all by \$1,600 of the past due rent. We were more than happy to get her caught up and hopefully, now that she is even, she will be able to keep her rent current.

We are so thankful to be able to help as many people as we do, and it is all because of your generous donations that make it possible for us to do so. May all of you be blessed for allowing us to be your arms in reaching out to those in need in Midland. Thank you very much!

TRUCK SCHEDULE

Our trucks are at St. Stephen's on the first Saturday of each month, and at St. Ann's on the third Saturday of each month (this month on February 12) from 9 am until 1 pm. We have tax receipts available should you want one.





PB Roofing (432)853-7270

4400 Midland Dr, Midland, TX 79707



Prestigious 5 Star Rating by Medicare



*Largest Locally Owned Home Health Agency

*Background/Drug & Alcohol Screened Employees

*Serving 17 counties *Se Habla Español

*Services available 24 Hours a day, 7 days a week

*Owners, Parishioners Luis R. Diaz & Delma H. Chavez

Skilled Nursing - Physical Therapy - CNAs
Provider Services (Personal Assistant Services)
Medical Social Worker - Private Duty (Caregiver)
Occupational Therapy - Speech Therapy