

**1st Sunday of Lent / 1^{er} Domingo de Cuaresma
February 18th, 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 Bernudez

Administrator

Josie Brenner

Asst. Administrator

Annabel Wiesman

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

EUCCHARISTIC PROCESSION

Every First Friday 8:00PM

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

SE INVITA A TODOS LOS FIELES DE LA PARROQUIA SAN ESTEBAN A LOS

!!!EJERCICIOS CUARESMALES!!!

EN ESPAÑOL.

2024



26 de febrero 2024 6:30 p.m. a 7:30 p.m. en el templo

4 de marzo 2024 6:30 p.m. a 7:30 p.m. en el templo

18 marzo 2024 6:30 p.m. a 7:30 p.m. en el templo



!!!Que todos los hombres se salven!!!
18 de febrero 2024

Hermana Gertrudis Muñoz Mendieta

1 Jn 2,1-2 Hijitos míos, Os escribo esto para que no pequéis. Pero, si alguno peca, Tenemos a un abogado ante el Padre: A Jesucristo, el Justo. Él es víctima de propiciación por nuestros pecados, no sólo por los nuestros, sino también por los del mundo entero.

Los que han aceptado el mensaje evangélico y están en comunión con los que lo proclaman auténticamente (1 Jn 1, 1-3), de los que han nacido del agua y Espíritu (Jn 3,5).

El designio salvador de Dios, manifestado y centrado en el don del Hijo propiciación (1Jn 4,10), quiere la fe explícita en Jesucristo, pero no excluye de la salvación a aquellos a quienes la fe no ha sido suficientemente expuesta.

1 Tim 2,1-6 Ante todo, recomiendo que se hagan, plegarias, oraciones, súplicas y acciones de gracias por todos los hombres; Por los reyes y por todos los constituidos en autoridad, para que podamos vivir una vida tranquila y apacible con toda piedad y dignidad. Esto es bueno y agradable a Dios, nuestro Salvador, que quiere que todos los hombres se salven y lleguen al conocimiento pleno de la verdad. Porque hay un solo Dios, y también un solo mediador entre Dios y los hombres, Cristo Jesús, hombre también, Que se entregó a sí mismo como rescate por todos. Tal es el testimonio dado en el tiempo oportuno, y de este testimonio yo he sido constituido heraldo y apóstol – digo la verdad no miento, maestro de los gentiles en la fe y en la verdad.



MINISTERIO:
MUJERES DE FE Y ESPERANZA
TE INVITAN

MINI RETIRO DE MUJERES

TEMA:

Se Una Mujer Fuerte y Valiente

Sábado 24 de Febrero, 2024
8:30 am - 12:00 pm

ST STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
4601 NEELY AVE
MIDLAND, TX 79707

PARA INFORMACIÓN:
MARITE ARREDONDO +1 (432) 270-7717
MARIA VÁSQUEZ +1(432) 296-1897
SOCO CURIEL +1 (432) 967-7656

Donativo : \$15

Pilgrimage to the National Eucharistic Congress

INDIANAPOLIS
JULY 17 - 21, 2024

with Bishop Michael Sis and
the Diocese of San Angelo



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.



[BOOK NOW!](#)



St. Stephen's Catholic Church
Midland, Texas

1st Sunday of Lent

February 18th, 2024

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday February 18th– 1st Sunday of Lent

8:00am †Kenda Delashaw By Anthony Percifull
†Felice Moreno By Darrel & Annabel Wiesman
10:00am Chris Medrano (HB) By the Barger Family
†Domingo Carrizales By his Wife & Family
12:30pm James Russum (HB) de parte de su familia
†Ramon Moreno de parte de su Familia
5:00pm †Mary Bryan By her Family
Mary Angela Carroll By Bridgette
Por la parroquia

Monday February 19th

7:00am †Alfredo Dolores By Mabel Aportela
†Felice Moreno By Darrel & Annabel Wiesman
5:30pm Gabriel Quiroz (Happy Birthday) By Martha Leon

Tuesday February 20th

7:00am Barbara Deshotel By the Johnson family
5:30pm †Felice Moreno By Darrel & Annabel Wiesman

Wednesday February 21st– St. Peter Damian, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

7:00am †Felice Moreno By Darrel & Annabel Wiesman
12:15pm †Joe & †Eulalio Carrasco By Hortencia Carrasco
5:30pm †Domingo Carrizales By his Wife & family

Thursday February 22nd– The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

7:00am †Fr. Bernard Payne By Yen Khang Van
5:30pm †Felice Moreno By Darrel & Annabel Wiesman

Friday February 23rd– St. Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr

7:00am †Felice Moreno By Darrel & Annabel Wiesman
12:15pm †Eva & †Hilario Vasquez By their daughter
†Gabriel Riaño By Ana Riaño
5:30pm †Mary Okoh By Sharon Mendenhall

Following the 5:30pm Mass there will be Stations of the Cross

Saturday February 24th

8:00am †Felice Moreno By Darrel & Annabel Wiesman
†Maria de Jesus Sosa By Kat
5:00pm †Cipriano Nuñez By Connie Nuñez
†Jesus A. Hinojos & †Aurora H. Hinojos,
†Jesse H. Hinojos & †Virginia M. Hernandez

Sunday February 25th – 2nd Sunday of Lent

8:00am †Frank Percifull By Anthony Percifull
†Felice Moreno By Darrel & Annabel Wiesman
10:00am †Irene McGowan By her family
12:30pm †Sofia & †Victoria Montero de Maria Velarde
†Beatriz Valenzuela Robles de parte de familia
5:00pm †Mary Okoh By Sharon Mendenhall
7:00pm Frank Franco By his family

Upcoming Baptismal Classes / Próximas clases bautismales:

**March 10, 2024 /
10 de marzo del 2024**
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 02.04.24-02.11.24

| Contributions: | Cash | Checks | Totals |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Sat. 5pm 1st collection | \$ 1,234.00 | \$ 4,503.71 | \$ 5,737.71 |
| Sun. 8am 1st collection | \$ 1,099.00 | \$ 2,475.00 | \$ 3,574.00 |
| Sun. 10am 1st collection | \$ 2,386.00 | \$ 1,981.00 | \$ 4,367.00 |
| Sun.12:30pm 1st collection | \$ 2,425.42 | \$ 855.00 | \$ 3,280.42 |
| Sun. 5pm 1st collection | \$ 897.00 | \$ 1,700.00 | \$ 2,597.00 |
| Sun. 7pm 1st collection | \$ 90.25 | \$ 0.00 | \$ 90.25 |
| Daily Masses | \$ 224.00 | \$ 125.00 | \$ 349.00 |
| Online Giving | | \$ 5,750.00 | \$ 5,750.00 |
| Mailed-In Contributions | | \$ 530.00 | \$ 530.00 |
| | | GRAND TOTAL | \$ 26,275.38 |
| 2nd– Collection Rachel's Vineyard | \$ 1259.25 | \$ 1,655.00 | \$ 2,914.25 |

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



Fr. Bala Sunday Reflection

Renewal and Repentance

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,
As we gather on this First Sunday of Lent, we embark on a journey of renewal and reflection, guided by the Word of God. Today's readings from Genesis, Psalms, the First Letter of Peter, and the Gospel of Mark provide us with profound insights into the covenant of God with His people, the path of righteousness, the significance of baptism, and the call to repentance and belief in the Gospel.

In our first reading from Genesis 9:8-15, we hear of God's covenant with Noah after the flood. This covenant is a symbol of God's mercy and fidelity, promising never again to destroy the earth with water. The rainbow, set in the clouds, serves as a sign of this everlasting covenant between God and every living creature. This passage reminds us of God's abiding presence and His desire for life to flourish.

The responsorial Psalm 25 invites us to seek the Lord's ways, asking Him to teach us His paths. It is a prayer for guidance and forgiveness, recognizing God's steadfast love and mercy. As we journey through Lent, this Psalm encourages us to trust in the Lord, to be open to learning from Him, and to seek His forgiveness for the times we have strayed from His path.

The second reading from the First Letter of Peter (3:18-22) connects the story of Noah's ark with the sacrament of baptism. Peter tells us that just as the floodwaters brought an end to iniquity and saved those on the ark, baptism now saves us—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a clear conscience through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This passage highlights the transformative power of baptism, which marks the beginning of our journey in faith and our commitment to live in accordance with God's will.

In the Gospel of Mark (1:12-15), we are told of Jesus' temptation in the desert for forty days, immediately after His baptism. Mark's account, concise yet powerful, shows us that even Jesus, the Son of God, faced trials and temptations. However, He emerged victorious, relying on the strength of the Father. Following this period of trial, Jesus began His public ministry in Galilee, proclaiming the Good News: "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel."

These readings collectively call us to a season of introspection and conversion. The covenant with Noah reminds us of God's promise and His desire for our salvation. The Psalm encourages us to seek God's guidance and forgiveness. Peter's letter emphasizes the significance of our baptism as a commitment to a new life in Christ. And the Gospel calls us to repentance and belief in the Good News.



Sunday Feb. 25th, 2024 at the 10:00am Mass.
Bishop Michael Sis will be celebrating his 10th Anniversary of being a Bishop in the Diocese of San Angelo here at St. Stephen's Catholic Church.
There will be breakfast and Felicitate with Bishop after Mass.



\$15.00 PER PLATE

Catfish, Coleslaw, Hushpuppies, Fries, Dessert & Drink

TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR, DEADLINE TO PURCHASE TICKETS IS MARCH 18, 2024

Annual Fish Fry FRIDAY

MARCH 22, 2024
TIME: 6:30 PM -
8:30 PM
PARISH HALL

**ST. STEPHEN'S WOMEN'S
ORGANIZATION &
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

gmybarra@yahoo.com



Made with PosterMyWall.com



Forma parte del...

GRUPO JUVENIL
En español

Todos los jueves 7:00pm
a partir de 14 años

*Soy una planta
pequeña en la que
Dios está dando
crecimiento
(1 corintios 3,7)*

Contáctanos & regístrate

Instagram: animachristi_ _
(575) -605- 4625
St. Stephen's church catholic
4601 Neely Ave.
Midland, Texas 79707

QUIEN COMO DIOS ? NADIE COMO DIOS

St. Stephen's Catholic Church
SAINTS ALIVE

**Youth
GROUP**

FAITH • FUN • FOOD • FELLOWSHIP

EVERY TUESDAY • 6:30PM - 8:00PM

Invite a Friend

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WELCOME

Eucharistic, Marian, an Absolute Blast & Much More!

FOR MORE DETAILS EMAIL
youthministryss@gmail.com
OR CALL BRIDGET COSTELLO
432-520-7394 ext 1010

*"If I do not become a saint I have done nothing."
-St. Dominic Savio*

St. Stephen's Women's Organization

LENTEN MEAL #2 — Soups 2/23
EMHC Installation Mass — 2/25

For membership information contact
Carmen Rodelo at 432-978-7723 or
Gina Ybarra at 432-230-4426.

KNIGHT'S OF COLUMBUS NEWS:

On Tuesday, February 27th, we will lead a rosary in
the church at 7:00 pm.
On Friday February 23rd, we will help Fr. Bala with the
rosary procession at 8:00 pm in the church parking
lot. Please come out to show your support.

We have many more functions coming up in the near
future, please be sure to check the bulletin for
updates.

Men over the age of 18, in good standing with the
catholic church, and would like to be part of our
fraternity, please visit with any of your Knight's wearing
their green vest.

Thank you and God Bless. Vivat Jesus!!



St. Joseph Ministry News

The St. Joseph Ministry is our Parish's outreach ministry
dedicated to serving individuals who are involved in the
child welfare system and creating awareness in our parish
for the needs of these families

**Looking to get involved in the
child welfare system ?
Become a CASA Volunteer!**



All children in the foster care system need an advocate!
They need YOU to stand up for them and lift up their voice.
Join CASA of West Texas to learn more about what it takes
to make a difference in the child welfare system!

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| February 22 | Time: 12pm-1pm Location: 1611 W Texas Ave Midland TX 79701 |
| March 7 | Time: 12pm-1pm Location: 1611 W Texas Ave Midland TX 79701 |
| March 14 | Time: 12pm-1pm Location: 1611 W Texas Ave Midland TX 79701 |
| March 20 | Time: 12pm- 1pm Location: 1811 S. Scurry St Big Spring TX 79720 |

Questions? Call or text Ariel Sanchez at 432-266-1750

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

There will be a required training for all altar servers.

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 una capacitación obligatoria para todos los monaguillos.

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

"40 Deeds for 40 Days" list

1. Patiently bear a wrong. 2. Learn a prayer by heart. 3. Donate to charity. 4. Volunteer your time. 5. Clean up your local environment. 6. Make a reconciliation. 7. Do not complain for a day.
8. Assist someone in need. 9. Visit an elderly person. 10. Help at a food bank. 11. Pray for prisoners. 12. Read a religious text. 13. Respect life in all forms. 14. Join a community choir. 15. Fast from judging others. 16. Pass up a treat for a day. 17. Do an act of kindness. 18. Encourage someone.
19. Learn about a saint. 20. Appreciate creation. 21. Recycle and manage waste. 22. Listen to others attentively. 23. Offer up a difficulty. 24. Teach someone a skill. 25. Speak words of affirmation.
26. Give someone your full attention. 27. Attend a religious service. 28. Reflect on your blessings.
29. Write a thank you note. 30. Share a meal with someone. 31. Take time for self-reflection.
32. Forgive someone. 33. Support a local business.
34. Say a prayer for guidance. 35. Dedicate time to family. 36. Study a piece of religious art. 37. Avoid gossip. 38. Perform a random act of kindness. 39. Appreciate the silence. 40. Engage in a spiritual conversation.

**From the letters of Msgr. James P. Bridges
40 Deeds for 40 Days**

Dearly Beloved,

Ash Wednesday as ashes are put on our foreheads Remember thou art dust and to dust thou shalt return. Allow me to repeat the words of Ash Wednesday as we begin Lent. Remember thou art dust and unto dust thou shalt return. We remind ourselves that this life is a temporary gift to be used for God's glory and the service of others. When we better understand the context of going to dust, we can all humbly acknowledge our need to repent and be converted. The Lenten season is specifically a time for change. To change is to transform, to convert our hearts, our minds, and our bodies in a better image of the risen Christ.

Lent is a special season, a time set apart to reflect on our relationship with God and how we live out that relationship in specific, concrete ways. Our forty days of Lent call us to deeper devotion, reflection, and penance. This is not simply a time to give up some food or other pleasures. It is a time to change something fundamental in our lives, to grow in holiness and to grow in love. We can use this sacred time to re-engage with our faith and with the Church, to attend Mass more frequently, to pray with greater intensity, and to perform works of charity and justice.

Lent is the season of conversion because it offers us an opportunity to reflect on our lives and to turn back to God. It is a time to examine our lives, to see where we have failed and to ask for God's mercy and help to start anew. We are called to a conversion of heart - to turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel. A true conversion involves a change of heart - a deep interior transformation that is manifested in our actions.

One of the lessons of our faith is the lesson of memory. Saints throughout the centuries remind us of the importance of remembering who we are before God. We can look to saints as examples of how to live out our faith in daily life. The saints were not perfect, but they strove to live in perfect harmony with the will of God. This Lent, let us ask the saints to intercede for us, that we might also strive to live in greater harmony with God's will.

We celebrate the memory of so many saints precisely because they were able to let go of themselves and live for God. The saints teach us that when we let go of our own will and seek to do God's will, we find true happiness and peace. The saints show us that a life of virtue and holiness is possible for all of us, no matter our state in life.

Lent is also a time to embrace the sacramental life of the Church. The sacraments are special encounters with Christ that nourish and strengthen our faith. During Lent, we are invited to participate more fully in the sacramental life by attending Mass and receiving the Eucharist more frequently, by going to confession, and by taking part in the many other sacramental opportunities offered by the Church. These sacramental encounters are an essential part of our Lenten journey, as they draw us closer to Christ and help us to live out our baptismal promises.

In conclusion, let us make this Lent a time of real growth in faith and love. Let us use this opportunity to deepen our relationship with God and to live out our faith in concrete ways through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Let us ask for the grace to change, to be converted, and to become more like Christ. May this Lent be a time of true spiritual renewal for each one of us.

Yours in the Lord,
Father James P. Bridges

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:

| | | |
|----------|-------------|--------------|
| Electric | 12 families | \$ 4,162.83 |
| Gas | 3 families | \$ 385.70 |
| Water | 7 families | \$ 2,626.98 |
| Rent | 13 families | \$ 28,480.33 |
| Total | | \$ 35,655.84 |

A Priest Always

*To live in the midst of the world without wishing its pleasures;
To be a member of each family, yet belonging to none;*

To share all sufferings;

To penetrate all secrets;

To heal all wounds;

*To go from men to God and God to men and bring them His
pardon and hope;*

To have a heart of fire for charity;

And a heart of bronze for chastity;

Always to teach and forgive;

To console and bless.

*Merciful God, what an exalted life!
And it is yours, O priest of Jesus Christ!*

Jean Baptiste Henri Lacordaire, O.P.



**Rest in God's Peace, Monsignor.
You are dearly missed**

!!!INTERESANTE NOTICIA!!!



*El tercer domingo de cada mes
Se ofrecerá la misa de 12:30 p.m. por los
niñ@s de
La Parroquia San Esteban por lo cual se
les invita
A que los traigan.*

LENTEN DINNERS

You are invited to our upcoming Lenten Dinner
after stations of the Cross,
Of various soups provided by the St. Stephen's
Women's Organization
this Friday February 23rd at 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM
in our Parish Hall.

There is no cost but a donation to help defray
the costs of the meal is appreciated.

We are looking forward seeing you then.





PB Roofing (432)853-7270



4400 Midland Dr, Midland, TX 79707



Prestigious
5 Star Rating
by Medicare



ST. JOSEPH'S
HOME HEALTH, INC

30 Village Circle • Midland, TX 79701

432-684-5858 OR 877-684-5858

"Providing excellent home care to our community."

**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**