

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent / 3<sup>er</sup> Domingo de Cuaresma  
March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2024 / 3<sup>ro</sup> de Marzo del 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

#### Parochial Vicar

Rev. Ignatius Edet

#### 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

Bridget 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](http://www.ststephensmidland.com)

Parish Email: [frontdesk@ssccmidland.com](mailto:frontdesk@ssccmidland.com)



# **HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

## **HORARIO DE LA SEMANA SANTA: MARCH 25-31**



1.

**March 24**

**PALM SUNDAY, 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM & 5:00 PM (ENGLISH)  
DOMINGO DE RAMOS, 12:30 PM (ESPAÑOL) & 7:00 PM (BILINGUAL)**

2.

**March 25**

**MONDAY, 7:00 AM & 5:30 PM (DAILY MASS)**

3.

**March 26**

**TUESDAY, 7:00 AM & 5:30 PM (DAILY MASS)**

4.

**MARCH 27**

**WEDNESDAY, 7:00 AM, 12:15 PM & 5:30 PM (DAILY MASS)**

**SPECIAL EVENT: LIVE PASSION PLAY BY OUR YOUTH  
AT 6:30 PM. PLEASE COME AND SUPPORT OUR YOUTH**

5.

**March 28**

**Holy Thursday, 5:30 PM: Mass of the Last Supper (English)  
Jueves Santo, 7:30 PM: Misa de la Ultima Cena (Español)**

6.

**March 29**

**Good Friday, 3:00 PM & 7:00 PM (English): Stations of the Cross,  
Veneration of the Cross & Communion Service**

**Viernes Santo, 11:00 AM y 9:00 PM (Español): Via Crucis, Veneracion  
de la Santa Cruz y Servicio del comunión y a las 9:00 pm El Pesame.**

7.

**March 30**

**Holy Saturday, 8:30 PM: Easter Vigil Mass  
Sabado de Gloria: Vigilia Pascual**

8.

**March 31**

**Easter Sunday, 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM & 5:00 PM (English)  
Domingo de Resurrección, 12:30 PM (Español)**

**Please make a note of it: There is no 7:00 PM Mass**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Sunday March 3rd—3rd Sunday of Lent**

8:00am †Angela Wiesman By A.J. & Marilyn Wachsmann  
†Cosme Hinojosa By her family  
10:00am †Frank Percifull By Anthony Percifull  
12:30pm †Paula & †Modesto Carrasco  
Accion de gracias por la salud de Joel Cortes  
5:00pm †Mary Bryan By her family  
7:00p Ladies of Secret Santa

**Monday March 4th—St. Casimir**

7:00am Antonio Molinar By his family  
5:30pm Lallie Gomez By Adele Dominguez

**Tuesday March 5th**

7:00am †Mary Okoh By Sharon Mendenhall  
5:30pm Olivia Sanchez Jasso By Adele Dominguez

**Wednesday March 6th**

7:00am †Mary Okoh By Sharon Mendenhall  
12:15pm †Msgr. James P. Bridges By Tony Villegas  
†Adolfo & †Bertha Riaño By Ana Riaño  
5:30pm †John Shipman By Olga

**Thursday March 7th—St. Perpetua & St. Felicity**

7:00am Lisa Wilson (Happy Birthday) By family  
5:30pm †Daniel Aguilar By the Aguilar family

**Friday March 8th—St. John of God**

7:00am Rosales Vera family By Maria Esther  
12:15pm Ignacio Villegas Jr. (Happy Birthday) By Tony Villegas  
5:30pm †Linda Kiekbusch By Richard Kiekbusch

**Saturday March 9th—St. Frances of Rome**

8:00am †Librada Finol & †Adelmo Velarde de Maria Velarde  
Deceased members of Nuñez, Hernandez, Gonzales & Moreno families By Kat

5:00pm †Frank & †Bernadina Hernandez By Olga  
Janie Sainz By the Sainz family

**Sunday March 10th—4th Sunday of Lent**

8:00am †Frank Percifull By Anthony Percifull  
10:00am †Mary Angela Clee By her mother  
12:30pm †Claudio & †Elivorio Arias de familia  
5:00pm †Maria Luisa Rodriguez By family  
7:00pm For the parish



**PASCUA... LA LUZ SUPERA A LAS TINIEBLAS.**

*Como pena que muere  
y se vuelve alegría, resucitó el Señor.  
El amor vence al odio y el sencillo  
al soberbio, resucitó el Señor.  
La luz vence a las sombras  
y la paz a la guerra, resucitó el Señor.*

*La Pascua es paso de Dios, paso de la muerte a la vida, paso que transforma a quien se abre a la experiencia del Crucificado-Resucitado.  
Pascua es un momento para agradecer a Dios tanto bien recibido. Celebramos la memoria del paso del Señor, recibimos con alegría al Consolador, abrazamos la Esperanza y damos gracias a Papa-Dios. Celebramos la memoria del paso liberador de Dios que abrió las aguas del Mar Rojo para que el pueblo se encontrara con Él en el desierto y, dejando atrás la esclavitud, iniciara el largo trayecto a la libertad.*

*Recibimos con alegría al Crucificado, Resucitado a la Vida de Dios a la cual sólo se llega por el amor tan grande que vence el miedo a la muerte y dona voluntariamente la propia vida.*

*La contemplación del Crucificado nos ha conducido a apiadarnos de los descartados del actual orden mundial, condenados a la muerte de la pobreza, la marginalidad, la pérdida de sus derechos fundamentales, obligados a huir de su patria y alejarse de su gente querida. Allí descubrimos al Dios-con-nosotros que nos invita a cuidar el amor de Dios en nosotros abriéndonos a lavarnos los pies los unos a los otros, a cuidar sin miedo la vida de los otros. Sino de la sociedad misma.*

*La Pascua del Resucitado sea motivo de alegría profunda y traiga bendición para todos nosotros. Que será un tiempo de gozo y transformación profunda.*

**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 contact the parish office to register.**

**Por favor contacte la oficina parroquial para registrarse.**

**Please pray for the following:** Corina P., Arturo Rodriguez & Maadi Salgado, 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 Harter, 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 Harter, 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..

*Email [frontdesk@ssccmidland.com](mailto: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!*



## Fr. Bala Sunday Reflection

### Transformed by Law and Love: The Journey of Lent

Today, as we gather on this Third Sunday of Lent, we delve into the heart of our Lenten journey through the scriptures presented to us: Exodus 20:1-17, Psalm 19:8-11, 1 Corinthians 1:22-25, and John 2:13-25. Each of these readings invites us to reflect deeply on our relationship with God and to discern our place in the sacred story of salvation.

Our first reading from Exodus presents us with the Ten Commandments, foundational laws given by God to Moses on Mount Sinai. These commandments are not merely rules to follow; they are a covenant of love, a guide to living in right relationship with God and with one another. They remind us of the importance of worship, respect, and moral integrity. As we journey through Lent, this is a time to examine our lives in light of these commandments. Are we placing God first in our lives? Are our relationships marked by honesty, respect, and love?

Psalm 19 reinforces this message, praising the law of the Lord as perfect, trustworthy, and more precious than gold. The psalmist reminds us that in keeping the commandments, there is great reward. This Lent, let us discover the joy and freedom that comes from living according to God's ways. The psalm calls us to appreciate the beauty of God's law as a reflection of His love and wisdom, guiding us to fullness of life.

In the second reading from 1 Corinthians, Paul speaks of the cross as the power and wisdom of God. To those who are called, Christ crucified is the ultimate sign of God's love and the source of our salvation. This challenges the world's understanding of power and wisdom. The message of the cross invites us to find strength in vulnerability, wisdom in simplicity, and victory in what appears to be defeat. As we reflect on Christ's passion, let us embrace the paradox of the cross and find in it our hope and salvation.

The Gospel from John portrays Jesus cleansing the Temple, a sign of his zeal for his Father's house and a foreshadowing of the new temple to be established in his Body. Jesus challenges the practices that have turned a place of worship into a marketplace, calling us back to the heart of worship and communion with God. This Lent, let us cleanse the temples of our own hearts, removing anything that distracts us from God and obstructs our relationship with Him. Let us recommit ourselves to being temples of the Holy Spirit, where God is worshipped in spirit and truth.

As we continue our Lenten journey, let us take to heart the lessons of today's readings. Let the commandments guide us to live in right relationship with God and one another. Let the psalm remind us of the joy found in God's law. Let us find strength in the message of the cross and cleanse our hearts to be true temples of the Holy Spirit. May this Lent be a time of deepening our commitment to live according to the wisdom of God, embracing the cross as the way to resurrection and life.

Amen.

### **Last Week Collections Week of 02.18.24-02.25.24**

Contributions:	Cash	Checks	Totals
Sat. 5pm 1st collection	\$ 1,531.68	\$ 2,555.00	\$ 4,086.68
Sun. 8am 1st collection	\$ 813.00	\$ 1,640.00	\$ 2,453.00
Sun. 10am 1st collection	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 3,196.00	\$ 5,496.00
Sun. 12:30pm 1st collection	\$ 3,056.12	\$ 1,410.00	\$ 4,466.12
Sun. 5pm 1st collection	\$ 1,985.20	\$ 1,613.00	\$ 3,598.20
Sun. 7pm 1st collection	\$ 331.81	\$ 350.00	\$ 681.81
Daily Masses	\$ 211.00	\$ 175.00	\$ 386.00
Online Giving		\$ 24,107.52	\$ 24,107.52
Mailed-In Contributions		\$ 5,266.00	\$ 5,266.00
		<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 50,541.33</b>

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**



## Upcoming Events 2024

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation for CCD Children**

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Wednesday, March 20 at 6:30 PM

Rehearsal for First Communion: Wednesday, April 17 at 6:30 PM

First Communion: Saturdays, April 20 & April 27 at 5:00 PM

Rehearsal for Confirmation: Wednesday, April 24, at 7:00 PM

Confirmation: Wednesday, May 1 at 7:00 PM (Bilingual)

**Vacation Bible School (VBS) Monday, June 17 – Friday, June 21, 2024 (English) :**

**Please Register as soon as possible.**

### **Sacramento de Reconciliación, Primera Comunión y Confirmación para CCD**

Retiro para los candidatos de Confirmación y Padrinos: Sábado 23 de Marzo a las 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Ensayo de Confirmación: Miércoles, 24 de Abril a las 7:00 PM

Sacramento de Confirmación: Miércoles, 1 de Mayo a las 7:00 PM (Bilingüe)

Retiro para los niños de Primera Comunión: Sábado, 4 de Mayo a las 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Sacramento de Reconciliación: Lunes, 13 de Mayo a las 6:30 PM

Ensayo de Primera Comunión: Lunes, 20 de Mayo a las 6:30 PM

Primera Comunión: Domingo, 26 de Mayo a las 12:30 PM

**Escuela Bíblica de Verano (EBV) Lunes 24 – Viernes 28 de Junio, 2024 (Español):**

**Inscripciones Abiertas**



project rachel

#### **Healing After Abortion**

All of us are in need of God's mercy,  
and Jesus stands ever ready to forgive and to heal.  
Project Rachel Ministry of the Diocese of San Angelo is  
here to help offer the healing mercy of Jesus Christ to  
women and men who have experienced an abortion. Many  
times, our sin, especially the sin of abortion, may leave us  
feeling great shame and guilt, but know that you are loved,  
Jesus desires to forgive, and you have  
a home in the Catholic Church.

Project Rachel offers confidential weekend retreats, one-  
on-one counseling with Catholic counselors, and private  
support groups for those desiring healing. Our next retreat  
in English is scheduled for October.

If you desire healing from abortion, know that we are here  
and that you are not alone. Please call us at our  
confidential helpline at

**(432) 236-9883**

or email us at

[projectrachel@sanangelodiocese.org](mailto:projectrachel@sanangelodiocese.org).

Jesus is here to offer all of us his love and mercy.  
Do not be afraid.



project rachel

#### **Sanación después del aborto**

Todos nosotros necesitamos la misericordia de Dios y Jesús  
está siempre dispuesto a perdonar y sanar. El Ministerio  
Proyecto Raquel de la Diócesis de San Angelo está  
aquí para ayudar a ofrecer la misericordia  
sanadora de Jesucristo a mujeres y hombres que han  
experimentado un aborto. Muchas veces, nuestro pecado,  
especialmente el pecado del aborto, puede hacernos  
sentir una gran vergüenza y culpa, pero debes saber  
que eres amado, Jesús desea perdonar,  
y que tienes un hogar en la Iglesia Católica.

Proyecto Rachel ofrece retiros confidenciales, asesoramiento  
individual con consejeros católicos y grupos de apoyo privados  
para quienes desean curación. Nuestro próximo retiro en  
español está programado para julio.

Si deseas curarte del aborto, debes saber que estamos aquí y  
que no estás solo. Llámenos a nuestra línea de ayuda  
confidencial al

**(432) 236-9883**

o envíenos un correo electrónico a

[projectrachel@sanangelodiocese.org](mailto:projectrachel@sanangelodiocese.org).

Jesús está aquí para ofrecernos a todos su amor y misericordia.  
No tengas miedo.

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

There will be a required training for all altar servers on Sunday March 17th from 2:30pm to 4:00pm in sanctuary of the church.

All wishing to be servers must have received their 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**

Habr  un entrenamiento obligatorio para todos los monaguillos el domingo 17 de marzo de 2:30pm a las 4:00pm en el santuario de la iglesia.

Todos los que deseen ser servidores deben haber recibido la Primera Comuni n.

Para informaci n adicional o preguntas por favor comun quese con:

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

St Gianna's Hope Memorial Mass will be Saturday, April 27, at 8 am, at St Ann's Midland in the main sanctuary. This Mass honors all babies lost through miscarriage and infants that have journeyed to Heaven. St Gianna's Hope Ministry would be honored to join you to remember and celebrate God's children who are not with us here on Earth anymore.

We would love to remember your child by name - information is in the bulletin to have your child recognized. We will have a small breakfast reception following the Mass in the Commons and look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you.

**KNIGHT'S OF COLUMBUS NEWS:**

Your Knights are moving right along in the month ahead.

We will be having our burritos sale on March 10th after the 8:00 am and 10:00 am masses, please come out show some support. Also, 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 this weekend. We will be glad to get you signed up.

On Tuesday March 12th, we will lead a rosary in the church at 7:00 pm. Please join us.

On Friday March 15th, 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.

Your St. Stephen's Fish Fry is just around the corner, please buy your tickets for \$15.00 per plate from any of the ladies from your St. Stephen's Women Organization or from your St. Stephen's Knights.

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

Thank you.  
Vivat Jesus!!

St. Gianna's Hope

A Mass for Infant Loss and  
Miscarriage

Saturday, April 27th @8am

Can we add you and your child to our St.  
Gianna's Hope prayer list? Scan this QR  
code to learn more about our ministry and  
to provide us with your name so that we can  
pray for you.



**\$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](mailto:gmybarra@yahoo.com)





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

[www.helpinghandsmidland.com](http://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	10 families	\$ 4,353.63
Water	3 families	\$ 765.34
Gas	8 families	\$ 1,899.71
Rent	22 families	\$ 41,371.00
Total		\$ 48,389.68

Last week there was a fire at the Ranchland Apartments. Eight units were completely destroyed, leaving 22 people both homeless and without their possessions. Furniture, clothing, appliances, toiletries...all burned. Nothing was salvageable. Some of the tenants were offered other apartments there, however the apartments are unfurnished. So these people have the grim prospect of having to replace all that they lost, and in the meantime go to work, to school and try to carry on with their lives. It is devastating!

We were able to assist three families last week who were victims of the fire. Two of them had accepted apartments at Ranchland, however they asked for help with their March rent, which we were more than happy to do. Another family chose to get an apartment elsewhere that fell within their income bracket, and so we helped them with their deposit and first month's rent. We will gladly assist any other resident affected by the fire. All they have to do is call us and have their referral from the American Red Cross.

In the meantime, if any of you have furniture, clothing or any household goods that you would be willing to donate, we ask that you please call Valery Cruz and Ranchland, (432) 687-1438. Thank you in advance, and please pray for all of these people!

### MARCH TRUCK SCHEDULE

Our trucks, and the Knights of Columbus will be at St. Stephen's on Saturday, March 2 and at St. Ann's on Saturday, March 16 from 9 am until 1 pm to pick up your donations. Tax receipts will be available for those needing them. Thank you for your generosity!

## INTENCIONES DE ORACIÓN DEL PAPA EN 2024

<b>ENERO:</b> por el don de la diversidad en la Iglesia.	<b>FEBRERO:</b> por las parroquias.	<b>MARZO:</b> por los nuevos mártires, testigos de Cristo.
<b>ABRIL:</b> por el papel de las mujeres.	<b>MAYO:</b> por la formación de religiosas, religiosos y seminaristas.	<b>JUNIO:</b> por los que huyen de su país.
<b>JULIO:</b> por el cuidado pastoral de los enfermos.	<b>AGOSTO:</b> por los líderes políticos.	<b>SEPTIEMBRE:</b> por el clamor de la Tierra.
<b>OCTUBRE:</b> por una misión compartida.	<b>NOVIEMBRE:</b> por los que han perdido un hijo.	<b>DICIEMBRE:</b> por los peregrinos de la esperanza.

### LENTEN DINNERS

You are invited to our upcoming Lenten Dinner after stations of the Cross, Of various salads hosted by the Young Adults of St. Stephen's parish this Friday March 8th 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.





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."*

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*\*Serving 17 counties*

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***\*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**

