

**5th SUNDAY OF EASTER / V DOMINGO DE PASCUA
May 18, 2025 / 18 de Mayo de 2025**



ST. STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

4601 Neely Avenue
Midland, Texas 79707
Phone: 432-520-7394

MISSION STATEMENT

Growing Friendships, Families, and 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

PASTORAL STAFF

PASTOR

Rev. Bala Anthony Govindu

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Ignatius Edet

DEACON

Dcn. Leonard Hendon

NUNS

Madre Gertrudis Munoz Mendieta (DRE)
Hermana: Leonila Torres Bermudez
Sister Rajamma Mendam (DRE)
Sister Nirmala Panditi

ADMINISTRATOR

Josie Brenner

ASST. ADMINISTRATOR

Annabel Wiesman

YOUTH COORDINATOR

Carlos Garcia

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Gabriel Salgado

OFFICE ASSISTANT

Gladys Qualls

RECEPTIONIST/OFFICE ASST.

Maria T Arredondo

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

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

Find us [@st.stephenmidland5420](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCststephenmidland5420) on YouTube to watch the live stream of the Mass!



May, The
Month of
MARY



Daily online Rosary with Fr Bala at 10pm on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/holyrosary82>

SUNDAY REFLECTION BY FR. IGNATIUS EDET

Dear brothers and sisters,

“I came not to abolish [the Law and the Prophets] but to fulfil them” (Mt 5:17). With this declaration, Jesus underscores the importance of the commandments. At the same time, he alludes to the radical attitude with which he would approach, interpret and apply them – recovering God’s original plan (see Mt 19:3-9). Transcending the narrow-mindedness of the teachers of the law, he introduces a creative and liberative interpretation and application of the Law and the Prophets based on the logic of God’s unconditional love and mercy (see Mt 5:38-48; Mk 2:27; Jn 8:1-11). Indeed, he incarnates that love. As his disciple, we are called and challenged to love him in return. Obeying God’s commandments is imperative if we must love him. Hence, he insists, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments” (Jn 14:15).

Background in Judaism

Jesus’ emphasis on obedience to God’s commandments as a practical expression of love for him is rooted in Judaism. The commandments occupy a prominent place in the Jewish faith and life. There are six hundred and thirteen (613) commandments (*misvot* in Hebrew) including the Decalogue or the Ten Commandments in the Hebrew Bible (the Christian Old Testament). These are, unevenly, divided into 248 positive commands and 365 prohibitions. For the Jews, generally, observing them did not only coincide with faithfulness to God’s Covenant with them. It also demonstrated God’s preferential relationship with them as well as their wisdom and sophistication as a people. So, Moses exhorts them: “See, I have taught you statutes and rules, as the Lord my God commanded me... Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’ For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is to us, whenever we call upon him? And what great nation is there, that has statutes and rules so righteous as all this law that I set before you today?” (Dt 4:5-8).

In a Nutshell

We can imagine how difficult and/or unpractical it would be to keep track of such a huge collection of statutes. So, Jewish rabbis intelligently reduced them to two fundamental and inseparably connected commandments, namely, the love of God above all things and the love of neighbour (see Mk 12:28-33). Although both are inseparably linked, the love of God above all else is the foundation of the true love of neighbour. This is demonstrated especially in the Jewish practice of reciting the Shema – that is, Deuteronomy 6:4-5 – daily (in the morning and evening): “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.” Of course, Jesus clearly aligns himself with this Jewish jurisprudence. He agrees that the love of God is the first and greatest commandment and that, together with the second – “You shall love your neighbour as yourself” – it forms the foundation of all the law and prophets (Mt 22:34-40).

Essentially a Single Commandment – LOVE!

It may be argued that there is, essentially, only one commandment, namely, LOVE, which expresses itself in two closely related though, strictly speaking, unequal aspects, since the love of God transcends (though never against) the love of neighbour. As the foundation of the latter, the love of God serves both as its yardstick and corrective. The latter, in turn, makes concrete the former. The evangelist John explains this emphatically: “Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen” (1 Jn 4:20). Indeed, he stresses further: “The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also” (1 Jn 4:21).

Incarnated in Jesus

Jesus is not just a perfect model of the above explained ideal. He is, indeed, its unique incarnation. He is the concrete realisation of the apostle’s assertion: “God is love ... God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins” (1 Jn 4:8-10). Now, on the one hand, He is the Son whose love for the Father is proved as it were by his absolute loyalty to the Father (Lk 22:42; Jn 6:38) – by completely emptying himself to the point of accepting to die on the Cross (Ph 2:6-11). On the other hand, through his selfless sacrifice, he manifests the Father’s (and his) love for us, for the whole world (Rm 5:8; see Jn 3:16; 15:13; 1 Jn 3:16). Rooted in his love for the Father and the Father’s love for him, Jesus’ love for us expresses and/or mirrors the bond of love within the communion of the Holy Trinity.

A Radical Novelty

This divine or inner-Trinitarian love is what Jesus commands us in today’s Gospel (Jn 13:31-33,34-35), as members of his Body, his holy people to copy, cultivate, and carry out in witness to the whole world. “I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another.” The context of this command is very significant, especially in its Paschal and Eucharistic undertones: At the Last Supper – just as he was about to be betrayed by one of his trusted disciples. Besides, he brings something radically new to the age-old commandment concerning love of neighbour (others) in the Hebrew tradition (see Ex 22:21; Lv 19:18; cf. Lk 10:29-37). For the self is no longer the measure for the love of neighbour because self-love is always tainted to a lesser or greater degree and, therefore, essentially unreliable as a matrix for the true love of others. From a Christian point of view, there is no guarantee that we know how to – or that we can – love ourselves perfectly. In fact, only God can – and indeed – love us (and the whole of creation) unconditionally and perfectly! So, his love for us remains the indispensable and true measure of our love for him, for others, and even for ourselves (1 Jn 4:10).

Love in Action

Like Jesus, our love for others cannot be mere words (1 Jn 3:16-18). It must be earthed, incarnated, that is, made tangible in some real way, be it materially, socially, psychologically, or spiritually (see Mt 25:31-46; Lk 10:25-37; cf. Mt 5:1-12). In the first reading (Acts 14:21-27), Paul and Barnabas exemplify this by their selfless commitment in bringing the Good News to the Gentiles. They planted churches and appointed elders (presbyters) to look after them. According to the evangelist Luke, “They strengthened the spirits of the disciples and exhorted them to persevere in the faith.” Loving like Jesus requires perseverance even in the face of hostility, persecution, and hardship. Therefore, Paul and Barnabas remind us – of course, based on their personal experience: “It is necessary for us to undergo many hardships to enter the kingdom of God.”

A New Order Inaugurated

Finally, Jesus tells his disciples, “This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” The sacrificial love enjoined by Jesus is transformational; it changes the giver and the receiver. It is also a powerful testimony to the world, giving credibility to our discipleship, and effectiveness to our witnessing. On the contrary, failing to love as commanded not only contradicts Christ’s will and intention for his Church; it scandalises the world, and damages evangelisation (see John Paul II, *Ut Unum Sint*, §6; Vatican II, *Unitatis Redintegratio*, §1). Without any doubts, loving like Jesus, makes present John’s vision in the second reading (Rv 21:1-5a), namely, of “a new heaven and a new earth,” where God dwells among his people. This is our vocation and mission as missionary disciples of Christ, especially at a time and society / world marred by divisiveness, conflicts, violence and wars. May our participation in the Holy Eucharist help us to grow in the true love of God and all God’s children — Amen!

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, May 18 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 8:00am All Priests by Linda & John
Chris Sims by family
- 10:00am †Johnny Contreras by family
†Emma Astorga Martinez by family
- 12:30pm †Alfredo Arredondo by parents
†Victor Manuel Villegas by family
- 2:30pm Midland African Catholic Community Mass
- 5:00pm †Graciela Luera (H-BD) by friends
†Frankie Hoelscher by Fr. Joe
- 7:00pm †Angela Wiesman by Darrel & Annabel
†Frank and †Francis Villa by Villa Family

Monday, May 19 Weekday of Easter

- 7:00am Linda's Surgery By John
Chris Sims by Family
- 5:30pm †Albino Nieto by Soledad Nieto
†Frank and †Francis Villa by family

Tuesday, May 20 Weekday (St. Bernardine of Siena)

- 7:00am †Clarence and †Josefina Chavez by John & Linda
†Frank and †Francis Villa by family
- 5:30pm Matteo Crivello (BD) by family
Janie Sotelo (BD) by family

Wednesday, May 21 (St. Christopher Magallanes)

- 7:00am Pope Leo XIV by John & Linda
†Frank and †Francis Villa by family
- 12:15pm Liz Madrid (BD) by family
Adriana Madrigal (GH) by Frias Family
- 5:30pm Ray Haskins by Family
Barney and Inez (WA) by Liz & Mando

Thursday, May 22 Weekday (St. Rita of Cascia)

- 7:00am †Thomas and †Agnes Campion By John
Chris Sims & Carter Napoli by Family
- 5:30pm †Frank and †Francis Villa by Villa Family

Friday, May 23 Weekday of Easter

- 7:00am Chiefo Ememboly (BD) by Parents
Pope Leo XIV by John & Linda
- 12:15pm Pope Leo XIV by John & Linda
†Frankie Hoelscher by Fr. Joe
- 5:30pm †Fran Thetford by McCarty family
†Frank and †Francis Villa by Villa Family

Saturday, May 24 Weekday of Easter

- 8:00am Chris Sims (GH) by family
†Frank and †Francis Villa by Villa Family
- 5:00pm †Frank and †Bernadina Hernandez by Olga
Mary Medrano (BD) by Barger family

Sunday, May 25 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 8:00am †Viola Ybarra
†Richard Otis Powell by Family
- 10:00am †Olga Rodriguez by family
†Frank and †Francis Villa by Villa Family
- 12:30pm †Josefina Camarillo
†Rodolfo Villa by family
- 5:00pm †Angela Wiesman by Darrel & Annabel
Pope Leo XIV by John & Linda
- 7:00pm New Pope Leo XIV by John & Linda
Yoleida Perez by family

BD= Birthday; GH= Good Health; BA= Baptism Anv;
OA= Ordination Anv.; WA= Wedding Anv.

Please pray for the following:

Noah L, Mirna L, Brenda G, Lacey G, conclave,
Melissa T, Grayson N, Jennifer N, Austin N, Rebecca
M, Josh I, Katalina A, Cesareo V, Sammy G, Angie L,
Gonzalo, Elida and Rogelio V, Cristina M, Esteban M,
Aj S, Cristina P, Vanessa H, Sarah S, Manuel A. Jr,
Ludivina E, Ruben M, Cristina R, Juho, Elviira, Reijo,
Aino, Kalevi, Seppo, Birgitta, Gape, Alexandra L,
Bertta, Otto, Tatiana T, Samantha S. M, Joel L, John &
Britney V, Jeremy & Marissa T, Eddy & Maria L, Dinh
M, Theresa C, Loretta G, Andrea Emilia B, Sylvia S,
Javier Maria A, Isaiah, Victoria & Vanessa V, Kathen
H, Malcom & Brandy, Jacob F, Luis S, Charlie H,
Ygnacio M, Jolan V, Jose O, Annaliza E, Gladys N,
Josie B, Ann C, Rio Family, Santa Cruz family,
Caceres family, Gustavo, Ester E, Ruben A,
Raymundo F, Andrea B, Abdulia B, Drew W, Charlie H,
Joan M, Mary S, Jeanette G, Gonzalo, Maria del Rocio,
Edmundo A, David L, Olivia H, †Joyce B, LeAnn H,
Amanda O, Brigitte, Manoj Y, Dr. Manickavasagar,
Jacob S, Maeve & Krew, Xiomara L.

**Email frontdesk@ststephensmidland.com or call
the office at (432) 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. Thankyou!**

Up coming Baptismal Classes Proximas Clases bautismales

June 8, 2025 / June 8, 2025

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.**

EL MINISTERIO DE MUJERES DE FE TE INVITA!

MINI RETIRO DE MUJERES
SABADO 31 DE MAYO, 2025

8:30AM - 12:00 PM

ST STEPHEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

4601 NEELY AVE, MIDLAND, TX 79707
DONATIVO \$15



MELINDA HERNANDEZ,
PSICOLOGA TANATOLOGA



YOUTH NEWS

We meet **TUESDAYS** from 6pm to 8pm
Youth Building

MAY 2025 CALENDER
MAY 20- LAST DAY

YOUTH VOLUNTEERS

We are seeking out adult volunteers to assist with youth group activities. If you are looking for an opportunity to serve, please send email to : youthdirector@ststephens.com

FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH POTLUCK BREAKFAST

Come meet and mingle with other parishioners. If you like bring a dish to share. Our next get together will be Saturday June 7, after the 8:00am

Ad Sizes:

1. Label Size: Price: \$25 per issue
2. Business Card Size (3.5" x 2"): Price: \$50 per issue
3. Quarter Page (3.75" x 5"): Price: \$75 per issue
4. Half Page (7.5" x 5"): Price: \$150 per issue
5. Full Page (7.5" x 10"): Price: \$300 per issue

Horario de capacitación para monaguillos:

Todas las capacitaciones se realizarán los

Domingos de 3:00pm 4:00pm. Les pedimos que lleguen 10 minutos antes para registrarse y prepararse, ya que comenzaremos puntualmente a las 3:00 p. m.

Domingo, 1 de Junio: Para los servidores de la misa dominical de 10:00am

Estudiantes de 3 a 12 que hayan recibido su Primera Comunión y estén interesados en unirse a nuestro ministerio de monaguillos se comuniquen con nosotros para programar una reunión informativa. Por favor, contacten a una de estas personas.

Anne Hobbs

432-9343192

Claribell C. Lopez

432-302-1929

Training Schedule for Altar Servers:

All trainings will be on

Sundays from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM. We ask you to arrive 10 minutes early to sign in and get ready because we will start promptly at 3:00 PM

Sunday, June 1 For 10:00 AM Sunday Mass Servers Students in grades 3 to 12 who have received their First Communion and are interested in joining our altar server ministry are asked to contact us so we can set up an informational meeting. Please contact one of the people below.

Anne Hobbs Claribell Carter Lopez

432-9343192

432-302-1929

Healing and Deliverance Masses in English (Every Alternate Fourth Saturday)

- * May 24, 2025 - 7:00 P.M.
- * July 26, 2025 - 7:00 P.M.
- * September 27, 2025—700 P.M.

Misa de Sanación y Liberación en Español (Cada cuarto domingo alterno)

- 22 de Junio de 2025 - 12:30 P.M.
- 24 de Agosto de 2025 - 12:30 P.M.
- 26 de Octubre de 2025— 12:30 P.M.

YOU'RE INVITED TO CELEBRATE

The Ordination to the
Diaconate of

Mr. Francisco J Camacho

Saturday, May 24, 2025
10:30 am

Our Lady of Guadalupe
1401 Garden Ln
Midland, TX 79701



First Homily

Rev. Mr. Francisco J Camacho

All Masses
May 24th 5 pm (Spanish)
May 25th 8 am, 2 pm (Spanish)
10 pm, 12 pm (English)

Our Lady of Guadalupe
1401 Garden Ln
Midland, TX 79701



The Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA) – Daughters of St. Stephen's, Court #2818, will have their next General Meeting on **May 22, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in Room 11.** ALL Catholic women 18 years and older are invited to attend while considering membership! Monthly meetings are held on the 4th Thursday of each month. For information, please contact 432-230-4426.

Supporting Project Rachel
of the Diocese of San Angelo



Father David Michael Moses

Wednesday August 6th
7:30 PM
Bush Convention Center
Midland, Texas

Tickets Available at:



Trusting Jesus in a wild world

St. Stephen Catholic Church

VBS

Niños Vamos de Vacaciones
a la escuela Bíblica

ESPAÑOL

Vacation Bible School

ENGLISH

Junio: 9 - 13, 2025

Horario: 8:15am - 12:00pm

Date: June 16-20, 2025

Time: 8:15am - 12:00pm

Volunteers are needed

MINI RETIRO JOVENES MIXTO

**20
JUNIO
2025**



Parroquia San Esteban
IGLESIA CATÓLICA

Horario:

6:00 p.m. a 10:00 p.m.

Cuota de recuperación

15 dólares

Mini Retiro de Parejas

Horario:

de 8:30 a.m. a 1:00 p.m.

Cuota de recuperación

40 dólares

Midland, Tx.

21 de junio 2025

Predicador
Óscar Cuevas

Atabanza
Mario Alberto

Para más información: 432 270 7717 • 432 967 7656 • 432 296 1897 ODESSA

MARÍA EN LA PALABRA DIOS.

18 de mayo 2025

Hermana Gertrudis Muñoz Mendieta

*La persona que con mayor humildad y perfección escuchó y escucha la Palabra de Dios es la Santísima Virgen María. Cuando el ángel Gabriel le comunica la voluntad de Dios, ella escucha con atención y luego acepta lo que Dios le propone (Lc 1,26 ss.). Así la Palabra de Dios no solamente es creída por su Pueblo, sino que ahora se Encarna en el seno de María. El fruto más grande que ha dado la humanidad es Jesucristo, no puede haber nada más grande que Jesús, y es el fruto bendito del vientre de María (Lc 1,42). **María no solamente escuchó, sino que encarnó la Palabra de Dios.***

Todos nosotros como cristianos comprometidos debemos seguir el ejemplo de María, encarnar la Palabra en nosotros, para dar también muchos frutos de vida eterna. Si de verdad escuchamos con amor y humildad la Palabra de Dios daremos muchos frutos para todos. Una vez que la Palabra entra en nosotros nos va transformando a la imagen de Dios, y damos frutos que perduran, para la vida eterna.

María es la tierra fecunda, la humanidad donde se siembra la Palabra y Dios está con nosotros Emmanuel, se queda para siempre. Dios se hace uno de nosotros para acompañarnos, iluminarnos, redimirnos y salvarnos. La Palabra de Dios se hace carne en María y pone su tienda entre nosotros (Jn 1,14). Cristo viene a este mundo a redimirnos del pecado, a dar su vida en la Cruz. Para poder encarnar la Palabra hay que creer en ella, María creyó en lo que el ángel le anunciaba, y la Palabra se encarnó en ella.

María siempre escuchaba con atención y meditaba en su corazón los acontecimientos y las palabras que ocurrían de parte de Dios en su vida (Lc 2,19), ella se disponía a cumplir lo que Dios le pedía cada vez. María no solamente aceptó que la Palabra se encarnara en su ser, sino que además encarnó la Palabra en su vida, porque ella siempre hizo lo que Dios le pidió, cambió sus planes para seguir los de Dios, siempre estuvo humildemente escuchando y cumpliendo la voluntad de Dios.

La Palabra se hizo carne y puso su morada entre nosotros, en la casa de María y de José, ese hogar de Nazareth se iluminó con la Palabra encarnada, Jesús, y desde allí se fue regando por toda la tierra, en la Iglesia de Cristo, que ilumina a todas las gentes de todos los tiempos.

Last Week's Collection

| Contributions: | Cash | Checks | Totals |
|-------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Sat. 8:30pm—1st collection | \$ 1,428.00 | \$ 5,796.05 | \$ 7,224.05 |
| Sun. 8am—1st collection | \$ 1,320.00 | \$ 3,420.00 | \$ 4,740.00 |
| Sun. 10am—1st collection | \$ 2,073.00 | \$ 2,321.00 | \$ 4,394.00 |
| Sun. 12:30pm—1st collection | \$ 2,322.78 | \$ 555.00 | \$ 2,877.78 |
| Sun. 3pm special needs Mass | \$ 34.00 | \$ 50.00 | \$ 84.00 |
| Sun. 5:00pm—1st collection | \$ 990.00 | \$ 1,725.00 | \$ 2,715.00 |
| Sun. 7:00pm—1st collection | \$ 590.00 | \$ 395.00 | \$ 985.00 |
| Daily Masses | \$ 86.00 | \$ 125.00 | \$ 211.00 |
| Online Giving | \$ 3,378.00 | | \$ 3,378.00 |
| Mailed in Contributions | | \$ 2,425.00 | \$ 2,425.00 |
| | | GRAND TOTAL | \$ 29,033.83 |
| Second Collection Mothers Day | \$ 2,926.00 | \$ 2,655.00 | \$ 5,581.00 |



Religious Education

Parish Religious Education – Academic year 2024-2025 Highlights

Enrollment Success

We are thrilled to report a wonderful turnout for this academic year!

- . **620 Students registered** for Religious Education Classes.
- . **170 Students** received their **First Communion on April 26.**
- . **73 Students** received the sacrament of **Confirmation on May 9, 2025**, administered by **The Most Rev. Bishop Michael Sis.**

Adult Confirmation

On **April 3**, we celebrated **Adult Confirmation**, with **51 adults** receiving the sacrament . It was a reverent and joyful celebration.

Easter Vigil Sacraments

During the **Easter Vigil** , Students and adults from **OCIA & OCIC** received sacraments:

- . Some received **Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation.**
- . Others received only **two Sacraments** (due to age requirements for Confirmation). This was a beautiful and Spirit- filled Celebration.

Special Thanks to Rev. Fr. Bala Anthony Govindu, Fr. Ignatius Edet and all catechist for their guidance and support in preparing our students and adults. Their dedication made these moments truly memorable!

May Crowning & Homeschool Program

On **May 8**, the **Homeschool team** led a touching **Crowning of Mary and Rosary**, marking the conclusion of their sessions for the year 2024-2025

- . The program will **resume in August**

. Coming Soon : Vacation Bible School (VBS)

We are excited for our upcoming **VBS Summer program**, running in **both English and Spanish:**

- . **Dates:** June 9-13 Spanish and June 16-20 English
- . **Location:** St. Stephen's Catholic Church

CCD Registration begins every Monday starting July 14, 2025, in the Church Foyer from 5:30 to 6:30 pm

Sr. Raji Mendam (DRE)

Madre Gertrudis Muñoz Mendieta (DRE)

Educación Religiosa Parroquial – Aspectos Destacados del Año Académico 2024-2025

¡Nos complace informar una excelente participación en este año Académico!

- . **620 estudiantes** se inscribieron en las clases de Educación Religiosa.
- . **170 estudiantes** recibieron su Primera Comunión el **26 de Abril de 2025.**
- . **73 estudiantes** recibieron el Sacramento de la Confirmación el **9 de Mayo de 2025**, administrado por el Reverendísimo Obispo Michael Sis.

Confirmación de Adultos

El **3 de Abril** celebramos la **Confirmación de 51 adultos** recibiendo el Sacramento. Fue una celebración reverente y alegre.

Sacramentos de la Vigilia Pascual

Durante la Vigilia Pascual, estudiantes y adultos de OCIA y OCIC recibieron los Sacramentos:

- Algunos recibieron el Bautismo, la Primera Comunión y la Confirmación.
- Otros recibieron solo dos Sacramentos (debido a los requisitos de edad para la Confirmación). Esta fue una celebración hermosa y llena de Espíritu Santo.

Agradecimientos especiales al Reverendo Padre Bala Anthony Govindu, al Padre Ignatius Edet y a todos sus catequistas por su guía y apoyo en la preparación de nuestros estudiantes y adultos. ¡Su dedicación hizo que estos momentos fueran verdaderamente memorables!

Coronación de Mayo y Programa de Educación en Casa

El **8 de mayo**, el Equipo de Educación en Casa dirigió una conmovedora **Coronación de María y el Rosario**, marcando la conclusión de sus sesiones del año 2024-2025.

- El Programa se reanudará en **Agosto.**

Próximamente: Escuela Bíblica de Vacaciones (VBS)

Estamos entusiasmados con nuestro próximo **programa de verano de la VBS**, que se impartirá tanto en Inglés como en Español.

- Fechas:** del 9 al 13 de Junio en Español y del 16 al 20 de Junio en Inglés

- Lugar:** Iglesia Católica de San Esteban

Las inscripciones para la CCD comenzarán los lunes a partir del 14 de Julio de 2025, en el vestíbulo de la Iglesia, de 5:30 p. m. a 6:30 p. m.

Hermana Raji Mendam (DRE)

Madre Gertrudis Muñoz Mendieta (DRE)

MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

2025 Medical Mission to Honduras June 29 - July 6, 2025

Bishop Michael Sis and the Diocesan Mission Council are pleased to announce an opportunity to serve on a week-long medical mission trip to Honduras. We will be serving our brothers and sisters of the Diocese of La Ceiba, Honduras.

We are seeking compassionate medical professionals, (physicians, nurses, PAs and NPs), to join us in providing essential healthcare services to underserved communities. This mission aims to offer medical assistance, health education, and support to those in need.

Sunday, June 29, 2025, we will fly from west Texas to beautiful Roatan, Honduras. There, we will work with the local parish in providing the much-needed medical services as a result of a tragic fire that destroyed the only hospital on the island.

From there we will travel to La Ceiba, Honduras, to meet and work with the local medical community in preparation for a trip to Esparta, Honduras, a rural community about 55 miles from La Ceiba. Esparta is a community of approximately 19,000 people with no medical services.

We will spend two days serving the people of Esparta and their surrounding community. We will return home on July 6, 2025.

If you feel called to make a difference and have the skills to help, please consider giving back your expertise and talents as volunteers to our first annual mission to Honduras.

For more information, and to sign up, please contact us at SanRafaelExpedition@outlook.com or call Janelle O'Connell at 325-668-3397. Let's come together to bring hope and healing to our brothers and sisters in Honduras!

Scan the QR code below for an explanation of mission from Bishop Sis and the diocesan Mission Council



“Attention Senior class of 2025”

There will be a graduation mass honoring all the St. Stephen's high school graduates on Sunday May 25 at the 12:30pm Mass. You do not need to register / sign up, just show up in your cap and gown. Thank you and congratulations to our graduating seniors.

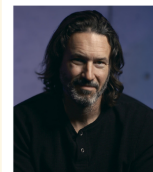
“Atención Graduantes del 2025”

El Domingo 25 de Mayo a las 12:30pm se celebrará una misa de graduación en honor a todos los graduados de la escuela preparatoria.

No es necesario registrarse, solo presentarse con su uniforme de graduación. Gracias y felicitaciones a nuestros Graduados.



June 27-29, 2025
St. Stephen's Catholic Church, Midland, TX
Ages 18-40



WITH KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:
FR. SAM FLORANCE AND KEITH NESTER

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION: \$100
AFTER APRIL 20TH REGISTRATION: \$125

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En este mes de mayo, mes de la Santísima Virgen María,
 Les invitamos a unirnos como comunidad
 parroquial en el rezo del Santo Rosario de Lunes a
 Viernes a las 7pm,
 donde los niños ofrecerán flores a la Virgen de
 Guadalupe,
 madre tierna y cercana. Que su presencia nos conduzca
 a Jesús
 y nos anime a vivir con fe, esperanza y amor.
¡¡¡Los esperamos!!!

ADULT CONFIRMATION

If you were confirmed last April 3rd 2025 with our Bishop Michael Sis, your certificates are ready to be picked up. Please see Maria or Gladys at the Parish Office or call 432-520-7394

CONFIRMACION DE ADULTOS

Si fue confirmado el pasado 3 de Abril de 2025 con nuestro Obispo Michael Sis, sus certificado estan listos para ser recogidos. Por favor vea a Maria o Gladys en la oficina parroquial o llame al 432-520-7394

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Featured Speaker: Deacon Ralph Poyo



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ST. STEPHEN'S
JC MEMORIAL
CLAY SHOOT

SATURDAY
JUNE 7TH

AT BOWLING RANCH
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MIDLAND, TX 79706

Come and Participate in St. Stephen's 4th Annual JC Memorial Clay Shoot! Enjoy a day of fun, competition, and comradery while honoring the memory of JC. All skill levels Welcome. Silent Auction, prizes, food and entertainment for everyone.



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Because of your very generous donations, this is what we were able to provide in assistance last week:

| | | |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Electric | 1 family | \$ 892.55 |
| Gas | 2 families | \$ 606.80 |
| Rent | 15 families | \$27,783.69 |
| Transportation | 2 families | \$ 1,263.88 |
| Total | | \$30,546.92 |

We received a call from a woman concerned about her neighbor. She had seen the recently widowed neighbor and the widow's three children loading up a U-Haul. When asked, the woman explained that the family had gotten several months behind on their mortgage during her late husband's illness. While she had not been served with foreclosure papers yet, she knew they were coming any day now. She had no idea where the family would go from there, but she was preparing to move, nonetheless.

The concerned neighbor approached us and when she gave us the name of the woman, we immediately recognized her as a member of a family we had helped with medical expenses in the past. We met with the woman the next day. Her husband had been diagnosed with cancer three years earlier. At the time he had a job and medical insurance. After surgery and chemotherapy, the cancer went into remission, however he was no longer physically able to perform his job and so he was terminated and given a small disability check. Less than a year later the cancer came raging back. With no medical insurance, every last penny that they had between their Social Security disability and her job went to his pain medications, medical bills, food and utilities. There was simply not enough left for the mortgage. He passed away three months ago, at the age of 49. What pain and heartache this family has been through, losing their beloved husband and father at such a young age!

The mortgage company agreed to work with the widow if she could pay half of the past due amount. We were happy to pay the entire past due amount. With the paycheck from her job and her late husband's Social Security, she will be able to keep on top of her bills and support herself and her children. Her mortgage payment is far less than rent on any decent apartment in Midland, and she will be able to keep her children and their pet dog in the home they have lived in for so many years.

Special thanks and blessings to all of you whose donations made it possible to keep this family in their home. Thank you very much!



The Knights are excited to engage with the church community through various activities, and we warmly invite you to join us and lend your support in any way possible. May God bless our endeavors!

FORE!! Our annual Golf Tournament tees off on May 16th at Hogan Golf Course at 1:30pm. Come out and enjoy a fun-filled afternoon with our Knights!

You are cordially invited to participate in our Rosary prayer sessions at the church every Tuesday in May, starting at 7pm, in honor of Mother Mary.

Additionally, we welcome practicing Catholic men over 18 to consider joining our fraternity. If interested, please connect with any Knight wearing a green vest this weekend. We look forward to embracing new members into our community.

Vivat Jesus! God Bless!
Marcos Ybarra Grand Knight



Would you like to volunteer?

We are in urgent need for more Mass Coordinator's to help with Weddings, Quinceanera's and Funerals!

***TRAINING is provided!**

***Bi-lingual is helpful!**

Please contact the church office for further information: 432-520-7394



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Grupo de Matrimonios
Iglesia San Esteban
4601 Neely Ave
Midland, TX 79707

te invita cordialmente a todos los matrimonios de nuestra comunidad a una noche de reflexión y fortalecimiento espiritual.

Fecha: Viernes, 30 de mayo de 2025
Hora: 7:00 PM
Lugar: Iglesia San Esteban Salon II

Nos honra contar con la participación de la Psicóloga Tanatóloga Melinda Hernández, quien compartirá con nosotros el tema:

"Nuestro Matrimonio, Cimiento de la Familia"

Un espacio para renovar nuestro compromiso como esposos y redescubrir el valor de la familia como núcleo de la fe y la sociedad.

¡Acompáñanos! Será una noche de crecimiento, diálogo y comunidad en el amor de Cristo.

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