

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 on YouTube to watch the live stream of the Mass!

YouTube

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

SUNDAY REFLECTION BY FR. BALA

Title: "A Dwelling Place for God in Our Hearts"

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we draw near to the glorious celebration of Pentecost, the Church invites us today to reflect more deeply on the **gift of peace, the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and the promise of God's dwelling among us**. Today's readings are not only beautiful in imagery and promise, but they offer us profound **truths that can transform our lives if we open our hearts**.

1. The Church Guided by the Holy Spirit – Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

In the first reading, we are taken to the **Council of Jerusalem**, the first great council of the Church. There was disagreement and confusion. Some insisted that new believers had to be circumcised according to the Mosaic Law. But the **Apostles and elders, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, discerned the truth** and chose not to impose unnecessary burdens. They wrote:

"It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us not to place on you any burden beyond these necessities."

What does this mean for us?

The Church is **not governed by human preference or ideology**, but by the **Holy Spirit**, the **Spirit of Truth** (John 16:13). As the Catechism reminds us:

"It is in the Church, in communion with all the baptized, that the Christian fulfills his vocation. From the Church he receives the Word of God... and the grace of the sacraments that sustains him on the 'way'" (CCC 2030).

When there is confusion in doctrine or morality, it is the Holy Spirit who **preserves the Church in truth**, and we are called to **listen and trust**. As **St. Ignatius of Antioch** once said, "Where the bishop is, there is the Church, and where the Church is, there is Jesus Christ."

Let us examine ourselves: Do I submit my opinions to the teachings of the Church, or do I resist them when they are inconvenient?

2. A Glorious Vision of Our Eternal Home – Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23

St. John gives us a breathtaking vision of the **Heavenly Jerusalem**, coming down from heaven. And what is most striking? "I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God almighty and the Lamb."

There is no sun or moon—for God Himself is the Light, and the Lamb is the lamp.

This is our destiny! Heaven is **not a place of clouds and harps** but a **living communion with God**. St. Catherine of Siena said, "All the way to Heaven is Heaven, because Jesus said, 'I am the Way."

Every time we come to Mass, every time we kneel before the Eucharist, we are entering into a foretaste of this Heavenly Jerusalem. This is why the liturgy must not be reduced to entertainment or routine. It is our true worship before the throne of the Lamb!

Let us reflect: Do I long for Heaven? Do I live in such a way that I am **building a spiritual temple in my soul** where God can dwell?

3. The Indwelling of the Trinity and the Gift of Peace – John 14:23-29

Jesus says:

"Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him."

This is one of the most profound promises in all of Scripture. The Catechism teaches us:

"The whole Christian life bears the mark of the love of the Son for the Father. This is why Christ's disciples are invited to live in close communion with Him" (CCC 1693).

God wants to dwell in your heart. Not just near you. Not just around you. Inside you.

St. Elizabeth of the Trinity, a Carmelite mystic, said: "Let yourself be loved." She wrote that we must become a "praise of glory" for God by letting Him dwell within us. This is not a poetic idea—it is real! Every time you receive the Eucharist in a state of grace, the Trinity lives in you.

And what is the fruit of this indwelling? **Peace.**

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you."

This is not worldly peace, which depends on external calm. This is the peace of Christ—the unshakable serenity that flows from knowing you are loved eternally by God. Even in the midst of war, sickness, betrayal, or death—this peace remains.

Conclusion: Be a Dwelling Place for God

My dear friends, in this Easter season, God is inviting you to become His dwelling place.

- Like the early Church, let us listen to the Holy Spirit who speaks through the Magisterium.
- Like the Heavenly Jerusalem, let us shine with the light of the Lamb, radiating holiness in a dark world.

Like Mary, the first tabernacle, let us say 'yes' to God's presence within us, and live in peace.

Let me leave you with the words of **St. Teresa of Avila**:

"Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes with which He looks compassion on this world."

So let us love Him, keep His word, and build our lives around His presence.

May this week be one of the transformations. Go to Confession. Spend time in Adoration. Reconcile with someone. Forgive. Pray the Rosary daily. Return to the Word. Let God dwell in you. Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, May 25 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:00am †Viola Ybarra

7:00pm

5:30pm

10:00am

12:30pm

†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 New Pope Leo XIV by John & Linda

Yoleida Perez by family

Monday, May 26 Weekday of Easter (St. Philip Neri)

7:00am Chris Sims (GH) by family

†John and †Nancy Pulte by family

5:30pm †Angela Wiesman by Darrel and Annabel

†Frank and †Francis Villa by family

Tuesday, May 27 Weekday (St. Augustine of Canterbury)

7:00am †Hanna Russum (BD) by family

Chris Sims (GH) by family

5:30pm †Angela Wiesman by Darrel and Annabel

†Frank and †Francis Villa by family

Wednesday, May 28 Weekday of Easter

7:00am Michael Campion (BD) John & Linda

†Marcela Mangan by family

12:15pm Chris Sims (GH) by family

Cindy Wakeley (GH) by Johnson Family †Angela Wiesman by Darrel and Annabel

†Frank and †Francis Villa by family

Thursday, May 29 Weekday of Easter

7:00am †Matthew Stice by Family

†John and †Nancy Pulte by family

5:30pm †Frank and †Francis Villa by Villa Family

†Corina de Leon Cisneros by daughter

Friday, May 30 Weekday of Easter

7:00am Chris Sims (GH) by family

Libbie Veselka (GH)

12:15pm Bishop James Conley (OA) by Gloria Oetting

†Frankie Hoelscher by Fr. Joe

5:30pm †Angela Wiesman by Darrel and Annabel

†Frank and †Francis Villa by Villa Family

Saturday, May 31 THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED

VIRGIN MARY

8:00am Tatum Hunt (BD) by family

†John and †Nancy Pulte by family

5:00pm †Frank and †Francis Villa by Villa Family

†Michael Granado and †Joel Villanueva by Fam.

Sunday, June 1 THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

8:00am John Baumgarten (BA) by Godparents

†Stan and †Anita Brosig by Family

†Juanita Carrizales by Family

Pope Leo XIV by John and Linda

†Jose Luis Salazar by Clara Borunda

†Edis Villasmill by family

5:00pm †Frank and †Francis Villa by Villa Family

For Rain by John & Linda

7:00pm Steve Oetting by Family †Angela Wiesman by Darrel and Annabel

BD= Birthday; GH= Good Health; BA= Baptism Anv;

Please pray for the following:

Leonardo A, 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.

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.



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

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

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.

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:

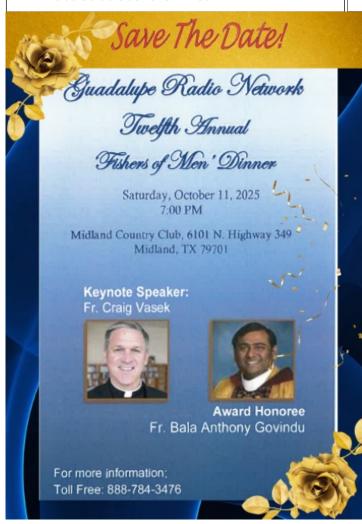
All trainings will be on

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





"WARRIOR PREPARE FOR BATTLE"

CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE FOR THE DIOCESE OF SAN ANGELO

"Warrior Prepare for Battle" is not just a catchphrase. God has called all men to stand and defend our Faith, our Families and our Communities.

JOIN US ON JULY 26, 2025



DEACON MIKE



REV. FR. BALA ANTHONY GOVINDU



JESSE ROMERO

Will share their knowledge and faith to inspire and guide our faith journey. Don't miss out on this opportunity to learn, grow and fellowship with men who know we need God. Reconciliation will be available and the conference will end with a Healing Mass and Adoration.

tickets are only **\$25.00**

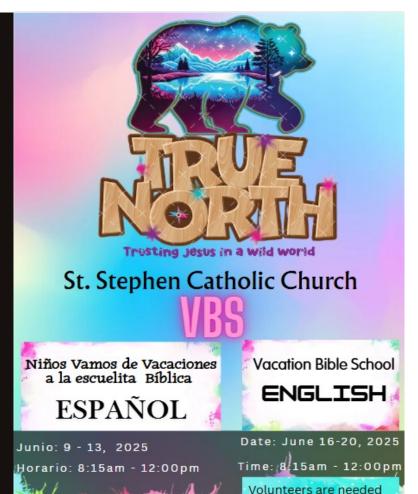
and your registration includes a light breakfast, snacks, and a hot lunch.

TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT CALL ROBIN MILLER: 325.651.3823

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH GYMNASIUM 7 W AVE N SAN ANGELO, TX JULY 26, 2025 9:00AM-4:00PM, DOORS OPEN AT 8AM FOR REGISTRATION.

WWW.THEFAMILYWARRIOR.ORG







ST. STEPHEN'S WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION

The SSWO has started their summer session and will not meet again until August. However, we would like to announce our newly elected EXECUTIVE BOARD:

President: Raquel Rodriguez
Vice-President: Gina Ryall
Treasurer: Maria Garcia
Corresponding Secretary: Dolores
Kirian
Recording Secretary: Leticia
Gutierrez

Please pray for these ladies as they take on their new board positions. We appreciate your prayers and support as we continue to serve our parish community!



Healing After Abortion

Confidential, compassionate help is available.

Call or text **432-236-9883** to speak to someone who will listen and help. Or visit <u>www.HopeAfterAbortion.org</u>

Sanación Después de un Aborto Ayuda confidencial y compasiva está disponible.

Llama o envía un mensaje de texto al **432- 236-9883** para hablar con alguien que te escuchará y ayudará. O visita

www.esperanzaposaborto.org

Last Week's Collection

Contributions:	Cash	Checks	Totals
Sat. 8:30pm—1st collection	\$ 1,027.00	\$ 2,570.00	\$ 3,597.00
Sun. 8am—1st collection	\$ 959.00	\$ 2,325.00	\$ 3,284.00
Sun. 10am—1st collection	\$ 1,620.00	\$ 3,656.00	\$ 5,276.00
Sun. 12:30pm—1st collection	\$ 2,345.11	\$ 185.00	\$ 2,530.11
Sun. 2:30pm African Mass	\$ 232.00		\$ 232.00
Sun. 5:00pm—1st collection	\$ 1,812.00	\$ 2,080.00	\$ 3,982.00
Sun. 7:00pm—1st collection	\$ 615.00	\$ 595.00	\$ 1,210.00
Daily Masses	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 75.00
Online Giving	\$ 5,628.00		\$ 5,628.00
Mailed in Contributions		\$ 2,005.00	\$ 2,005.00
		GRAND TOTAL	\$ 27,729.11

YOUNG ADULTS CONFIRMATION MAY 9, 2025



Friends,

This weekend, the Vocation Office hosted its annual Discernment Retreat at St. Mary's Church in Odessa. We had thirteen men from around the diocese in attendance, along with most of our diocesan seminarians.

A public word of "thanks" to Fr. Bernardito Getigan and his parishioners. The staff and volunteers were more than accommodating. The recent renovations to the Holy Family Room, chapel, and school dining room are tremendous success. The parish has a lot to celebrate.

Thanks to our speakers: Bishop Sis, Fr. Freddy Perez, Fr. Ignatius Edet, and Fr. Kevin Lenius. The men were moved by your priestly witness and example. Thank you for loving our men.

Please keep the vocation office and all discerners in your prayers.

Best

Rev. Ryan Rojo S.T.L.



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!







SATURDAY, JULY 19[™]

DOORS OPEN 7:30AM **EVENT STARTS 8:30AM**

Must Register to Attend Scan the QR code, visit GRNonline.com or call 1-888-784-3476

SPECIAL RATE HOTELS

Fairfield Inn & Suites 3415 Premier Dr., Plano, TX 75023 Ph; (972) 423-9944

Home 2 Suites 3525 Premier Dr., Plano, TX, 75023 Ph: (469) 367-4900

Tru by Hilton mier Dr., Plano, TX 75023 Ph: (972) 797-9401

PLANO EVENT CENTER 2000 E SPRING CREEK PKWY,

PLANO, TX 75074

Join us in celebrating 25 years of Guadalupe Radio Network, "Keeping the Promise"! Our jubilee year celebration will be a day filled with inspiring speakers that will leave you with hope and joy as they share their wisdom and love of our Catholic faith.

We want you there, to be a part of this exciting celebration of Mass, Talks, Adoration, and Confession, where you can view 60+ Relics and meet your GRN Family.

Make this extraordinary opportunity for spiritual renewal a part of your 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope experience in God's boundless love and mercy.





















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





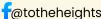
WITH KEYNOTE SPEAKERS: FR. SAM FLORANCE AND KEITH NESTER

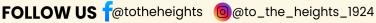
EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION: \$100 AFTER APRIL 20TH REGISTRATION: \$125

TICKET INCLUDES 4 FULL MEALS AND ACCESS TO ALL SESSIONS AND EVENTS

SCAN THE OR CODE TO REGISTER TODAY!







SERENITY MEMORIAL GARDENS CEMENTERY

Come and see our new Catholic Gardens

Come and see our Beautiful Sunset or Sunrise

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Russell B. Buchanan 432-684-6200

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www.serenitymemorialgardens.com

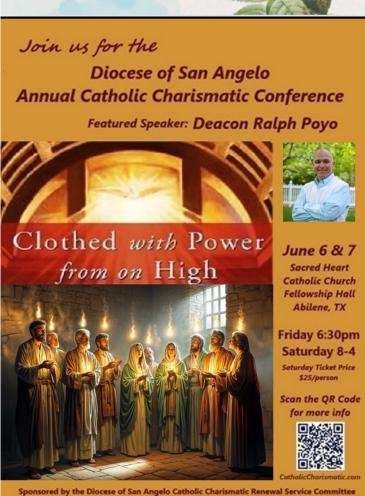


ADULT CONFIRMATION

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





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

www.helpinghandsmidland.com



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

Electric	7 families	\$ 2,734.95
Gas	2 families	\$ 259.95
Water	3 families	\$ 1,496.56
Rent	13 families	\$22,614.18
Medical	2 families	\$ 2,460.45
Total		\$29,566.09



Thank You, STRIKE USA!!!

Last week eighteen employees of Strike USA volunteered several hours of their time at Helping Hands. In the time they were here they were able to stock the store with picture frames that had been donated to us, put out DVDs and CDs, stocked the book department, cleaned out our electronics department and stocked it with new, used the forklift to load bales of clothing and bags into the 18-wheeler, unloaded furniture and made a run to the landfill!

Deepest thanks to Amber Hall, Ronnie Hall, Chad Allen, Johnathan Alaniz, Page Pickett, Ashley Pickett, Tomasito Gonzalez, David Rodriguez, Joel Aguirre, Chris Funaro, Tayna Browning, Brandy

Hale, Veronika Cazarez, Nicky Green, Billy Foust, Shannon Shaw, Sara Calhoun and Marina Solorza. You are amazing!

JUNE TRUCK SCHEDULE

Our trucks will be at St. Stephen's on Saturday, June 7 and at St. Ann's on Saturday, June 21 from 9 am until 1 pm to pick up your donations. Receipts are available on request. We thank both councils of the Knights of Columbus for doing this for us!

EL GRUPO DE ORACION

"El Buen Pastor" De la Renovación Carismática

de la iglesia de San Esteban Te invita a unirte al grupo, los viernes a las 6pm en el salón 2.

TENDREMOS CUIDADO DE NIÑOS DONDE ELLOS TAMBIEN APRENDERAN LA PALABRA DE DIOS DE UNA FORMA DIVERTIDA.

TENDREMOS ALABANZA, ORACIÓN, CONVIVENCIA Y TESTIMONIOS.

El Buen Pastor les abre las puertas a las ovejas, las llama por su nombre y ellas escuchan su

voz..... (San Juan 10-3)

¡No falte, Los esperamos!

Si tiene alguna pregunta o para más información comuníquese con Alexandra Santamaria al Tel. (432) 935-0657 o con Belén Valdez al Tel. (432) 488-7745



Would you like to volunteer?

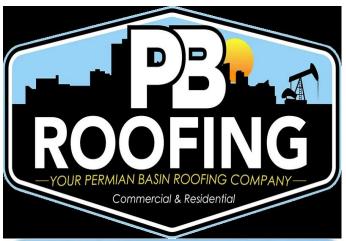
We are in <u>urgent</u> need for more Mass Coordinator's

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



SEAN CARROLL

COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL ROOFING



13311 W Co RD 122 ODESSA, TX 79765 CELL: 432.288.4065 OFFICE: 432.853.7270

SEAN@ROOFINGPB.COM





Contact us for a care consultation: (432) 520-0414 ComfortKeepers.com 4305 N Garfield St., Suite 229 Midland, TX 79705