21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / XXI DOMINGO DE TIEMPO



ST. STEPHEN CATHOLIC CHURCH-MIDLAND

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

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00pm (English)
Sunday: 8:00am (English)
10:30am (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 9:45 AM to 10:25 AM 12:00 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

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!



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

SUNDAY REFLECTION BY FR. BALA

Homily for the Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time Theme: "The Narrow Gate: God's Discipline, Our Transformation, and the Universal Call to Salvation"

1. First Reading – Isaiah 66:18–21 (The Universal Call of God)

My dear brothers and sisters,

Isaiah speaks to a people returning from exile, still thinking of God's salvation in narrow, national terms. But God widens the horizon: "I will gather nations of every language; they shall come and see my glory." This is a prophetic glimpse of the Church—universal, catholic, gathering men and women from every nation, language, and culture around the altar of the Lord.

St. Augustine once said: "The Church is the world reconciled." This means that no one is excluded from God's invitation. Our parish, too, must be a doorway of welcome—embracing the poor, the sinner, the broken, and leading all to Christ. Evangelization is not an optional extra; it is the very heartbeat of the Church.

2. Second Reading – Hebrews 12:5–7, 11–13 (The Gift of Discipline)

The Letter to the Hebrews encourages Christians who are suffering persecution. It reminds us that discipline is not punishment but love. "For whom the Lord loves, He disciplines." Like a father training his child, God allows trials not to destroy us but to make us holy.

St. John Chrysostom put it beautifully: "The Father disciplines not to destroy but to make us better." Think of an athlete in training—painful, yes, but necessary for victory. In the same way, our struggles and difficulties become the very tools God uses to prune our pride, strengthen our faith, and make us sharers in His holiness.

St. Teresa of Ávila once warned: "The world is on fire, but we waste our time with little things." The Lord's discipline shakes us out of distractions and orients us back to what matters—love, holiness, and eternal life.

3. Gospel – Luke 13:22–30 (The Narrow Gate of Commitment)

In today's Gospel, Jesus is asked: "Lord, will only a few be saved?" He does not answer with numbers. Instead, He challenges us: "Strive to enter through the narrow gate."

The narrow gate is not about God making salvation difficult; it is about us choosing to surrender fully to Christ. Jesus Himself is the gate. To enter, we must live our faith daily, not just in words but in deeds of love, humility, and perseverance.

St. Augustine knew the wide road well—he pursued pleasure, ambition, and pride until he surrendered to Christ. Then he found freedom in the narrow gate of holiness. St. Maximilian Kolbe showed us that the narrow gate is love that lays down life for another. St. John Vianney passed through the narrow gate daily in prayer, fasting, and endless hours in the confessional, leading countless souls back to God.

4. Existential Application – Living These Readings Today

- Personally: Am I striving—or am I drifting? Christianity cannot be inherited; it must be lived
- intentionally, every day.
- Communally: Our parish must not be a closed circle but a doorway of welcome, like Isaiah's vision of all nations gathered to God.

Practically: The narrow gate means forgiving when it is hardest, speaking the truth when it costs us, being generous when it hurts, and remaining faithful when the world tempts us to compromise.

5. Conclusion – Strive to Enter

My dear brothers and sisters,

Jesus' word today is urgent: "Strive to enter through the narrow gate." The Greek word agonizesthe means to struggle, to wrestle, to run as in a race. Salvation is not passive; it is a pilgrimage, a battle, a daily choice.

But we are not alone. Christ Himself is the narrow gate. He is also the Shepherd who guides us and the Friend who walks beside us. If we persevere in faith, accept the loving discipline of God, and open our hearts to others, then when the Master comes and knocks, He will not find strangers but beloved friends—welcomed forever at the banquet of heaven. **Amen.**

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, August 24 XXI SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am Joseph Jones (BD) by Family †Gerardo Alvarez by Family

10:30am †Barney Seidenberger by Family

Ralph Crivello (GH) by Family

12:30pm **Healing Mass**

†Magdalena R. Carbajal by Alexandra S.

†Francisco and †Irene Brito by Family

5:00pm Pamela R. Miles (GH)

Laurie Garcia (BD) bý Lydia Aguilar

7:00pm Isacc Silva conversion by Mom

Nick Montoya by Family

Monday August 25, (St. Louis & St. Joseph Calasanz)

Souls in Purgatory by Elsa Mora 7:00am

†Gerardo Alvarez by Family

5:30pm Isacc Silva conversion by Mom

Pamela R. Miles (GH)

Tuesday, August 26

Souls in Purgatory by Elsa Mora 7:00am

†Gerardo Alvarez by Family

5:30pm Katie Qualls (BD) by Family

Isacc Silva conversion by Mom

August 27 St. Monica Pamela R. Miles (GH) Wednesday,

7:00am

†Gerardo Alvarez by Family Bella Sanchez (BD) by Liz and Mando Elizabeth Creech by family 12:15pm

Isacc Silva conversion by Mom †Joe Kiowski by Dan & Barbara Parker 5:30pm

Thursday, August 28 St.. Augustine

7:00am Pamela R. Miles (GH)

†Gerardo Alvarez by Family

Isacc Silva conversion by Mom 5:30pm

†Ricardo Tavarez by Family

Friday, August 29 The passion of St. John the Baptist

7:00am Pamela R. Miles (GH)

†Gerardo Alvarez by Family

†Felice Moreno by Family 12:15 pm

†Maria Galindo by Adriel

5:30 pm Chantal Pfannestiel (BD) by Barger Family

Isacc Silva conversion by Mom

Saturday, August 30

8:00am Pamela R. Miles (GH)

Souls in Purgatory

Isacc Silva conversion by Mom 5:00pm

Chris Sims (GH) by Family

Sunday, August 31 XXII SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am Souls in Purgatory

†Terry Taylor by Mass Family

10:30am Ester Gonzales (BD) by Paz Carrizales

†Linda Kiekbusch by Husband

12:30pm †Natalia †Mirta †Francisco

†Francisco Morales Guzman by Alexandra

Christian Medrano (BD) by Barger Family 5:00pm

Henry Guzman (BD) 88th Linda and Family

7:00pm Isacc Silva conversion by Mom

†Walter Garibay by Family

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

OA=Ordination Anv.; WA=Wedding Anv; HBD= Heavenly BD



With joy and gratitude, we welcome

Fr. Bonaventure to St. Stephen Catholic

Church as our new Parochial Vicar.

Fr. Bonaventure Onyinyechi Anuforo graduated

from Boston College's Clough School of Theology and Ministry in May 2025 with a

Licentiate in Sacred Theology (STL) in Moral

Theology. He is a priest of the Catholic Diocese of Ahiara, Nigeria, ordained on May

26, 2007.

We thank God for sending him to serve our parish family beginning August 27, 2025, and to guide us in faith, prayer, and service. Let us keep him in our prayers as he begins his ministry among us.

Welcome to your new home, Fr. Bonaventure!

Upcoming Baptismal Classes Proximas Clases bautismales

> September 21, 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 September 6 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)

October 25, 2025 - 7:00 P.M.

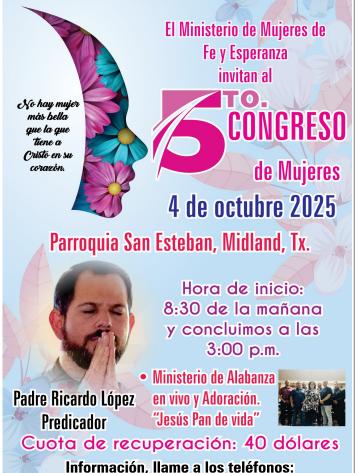
Misa de Sanación y Liberación en Español (Cada cuarto domingo alterno)

- 24 de Agosto, 2025 12:30 P.M.
- 23 de Noviembre, 2025–12:30 P.M.

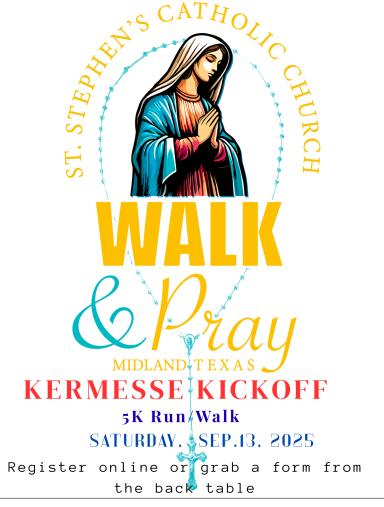


The (CDA) – Daughters of St. Stephen's, Court #2818, are working hard to serve you! We wish to thank those that supported our Hot Dog Day fundraiser! We did well and hope to have it become an annual event! CDA serves the mass on the Fourth Sunday of each month. We will have our next General Meeting on August 28, at 6:30 p.m. in Room 11.

*ALL Catholic women 18 years and older are invited to join and share in serving our parish community under our **Motto** of **Unity & Charity**, with our Patroness the **Blessed Mother Mary!** For information, please contact 432-230-4426 or join us at our next meeting!



432 349 8592 • 432 940 3481 • 432 296 1897 (ODESSA)





TALLER

El perdón que necesito en mi vida

29 de agosto, 2025 7:00 a 9:00 p.m.

St. Stephen Catholic Church Ministerio de Matrimonios Midland, Tx.

> con Adriana Hernández Zúñiga, MCF, CHL Familióloga y Catequista en el Amor Humano





INSCRIPCIONES PARA OCIA 2025-2026

(Orden de Iniciacion Christiana para Adultos)

Te Gustaria aprender mas sobre la fe catolica? Esta interesado en convertirse en un miembro de pleno derecho de la Iglesia Catolica?(Bautismo, Sagrada

Eucaristia, Confirmacion) Entonces OCIA es para ti!

Actualmente disponibles en línea:

https://ststephensmidland.com/adult-inquirer-form

También se aceptan inscripciones en la oficina de St. Stephen y después de Misa cada domingo a partir del 20 de Julio de 2025.

Las clases de OCIA comienzan el 9 de septiembre de 2025 a las 7:00 p.m. Iglesia St. Stephen - Salón 11

Personas de contacto: Belen Valez: (432) 488-7745 Gladys Qualls: (432) 520-7394 Correo electrónico: Gladys@ssccmidland.com

OCIA es un viaje de exploracion e iniciacion en la Iglesia Catolica Dios te esta llamando? La Iglesia Catolica les da la bienvenidal!

Join us for a video-based program that makes the wisdom of the Church's most foundational teachings accessible to all.

FOUNDATIONS of FAITH

The 11-week study starts 10 September and continues each Wednesday 9:30-11:00 a.m.

in classroom #2.

A Journey Through the Catechism Church office for of the Catholic Church

Class materials can be purchased at the \$40. For more information call 432-559-2658 or 432-312-6669.

CLUB DANCE

DATE/TIME: Saturday, August 30, 2025/ 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

COST/ATTIRE: \$20.00 per person/Casual

BAND: "Black Gold" (C & W, Latin, Swing)

DANCE LESSON: There will not be a Group Lesson at this

dance

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



NO ALCOHOL MAY BE BROUGHT INTO THE BALLROOM BY INDIVIDUALS

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

You are welcome to attend, and you may pay at the door. For more information or if you have any questions, PLEASE CONTACT our Secretary at: permianmusic87@gmail.com. Please do not contact St. Stephen for information on this function as it is separated from the church. THANK YOU!



Last week Collection

Contributions:	Cash	Checks	Totals
Sat. 5:00pm—1st collection	\$ 1,062.00	\$ 2,175.00	\$ 3,237.00
Sun. 8am—1st collection	\$ 1,514.00	\$ 6,835.00	\$ 8,349.00
Sun. 10:30am—1st collection	\$ 2,010.00	\$ 4,156.77	\$ 6,166.77
Sun. 12:30pm—1st collection	\$ 2,661.20	\$ 470.00	\$ 3,131.20
Sun. African Mass 2:30pm	\$ 110.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 110.00
Sun. 5:00pm—1st collection	\$ 1,509.00	\$ 1,070.00	\$ 2,579.00
Sun. 7:00pm—1st collection	\$ 1,069.00	\$ 295.00	\$ 1,364.00
Daily Masses	\$ 177.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 302.00
Online Giving	\$ 6,503.83		\$ 6,503.83
Mailed in contributions		\$ 1,862.00	\$ 1,862.00
		GRAND TOTAL	\$ 33,604.80

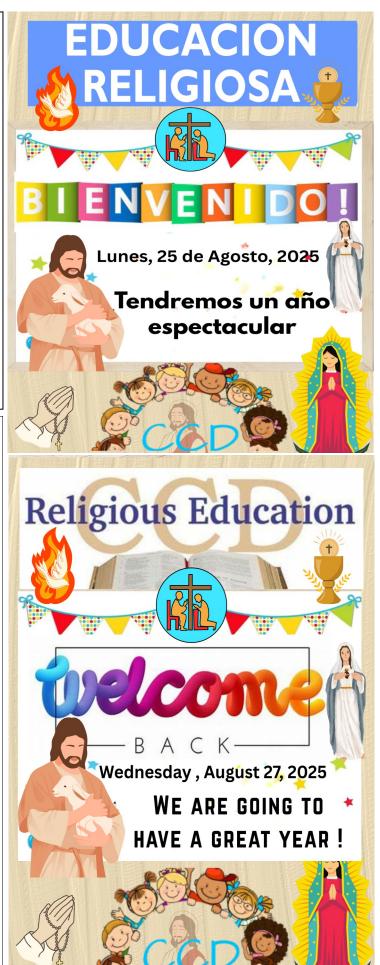
JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

The Diocese of San Angelo Office of Vocations is seeking a skilled and creative part-time Content Creator to develop and manage multimedia content to promote vocational discernment and awareness within the Diocese of San Angelo. This position will focus on creating videos, social media, and print materials to inspire and inform individuals about vocations to the priesthood and religious life. The Content Creator will work closely with the Vocations Director. This position requires a minimum of 2-3 years in a media, communications, or marketing role (a religious or nonprofit setting preferred), proficiency in video editing software and graphic design tools, and a strong understanding of social media platforms, trends, and analytics. San Angelo residency is not required, but applicant must be available for regular travel within the Diocese of San Angelo. Job duties and other information regarding the position are available at the Diocesan website, www.sanangelodiocese.org. Resumes should be sent to Mike Wyse, Chancellor, at P.O. Box 1829, San Angelo, Texas 76902-1829, or emailed to mwyse@sanangelodiocese.org by September 15, 2025.

DIOCESE OF SAN ANGELO POSITION AVAILABLE

Staff Accountant Position

The Diocese of San Angelo is accepting applications for the position of Staff Accountant. The Staff Accountant works on a team in the Finance Office to provide bookkeeping and human resources services to multiple parishes within the diocese. The Staff Accountant works with the pastor, parish staff and the finance council in producing accurate financial statements, executing best practices for internal controls, analysis of financial data, and implementation of financial guidelines and procedures established by the diocese. Experience with QuickBooks and Microsoft Office a plus. Hours are Monday – Friday, 8:00AM – 5:00PM with excellent benefits. Job duties and other information regarding the position are available at the Diocesan website www.sanangelodiocese.org. The Diocese is looking to fill this position as soon as possible, so interested applicants are encouraged to apply quickly. Resumes should be sent to Mike Wyse, Chancellor, at P.O. Box 1829, San Angelo, Texas 76902-1829, or emailed to mwyse@sanangelodiocese.org by August 29.





RAFFLE + FOOD + DRINKS + MORE FOR MORE INFO: WWW.STSTEPHENSMIDLAND.COM







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*TRAN LIFETIME WARRANTY

WITH OVER 20 PRIZES

FOOD + DRINKS MORE FOR MORE INFO: WWW.STSTEPHENSMIDLAND.COM

20 Raffle Prizes 1 Ticket - \$20 or 6 Tickets - \$100

AND MUCH MORE



ST. STEPHEN'S

Diamond Cross Earrings \$1,500 Gift certificate to Mitchell's Furniture

\$1000 Visa Gift Card 70 Inch Smart TV

BBQ Griddle

Dallas Cowboy Helmet Autographed by Dak Prescott

Yeti Cooler Airpods Pro

\$500 Gift Certificate for custom made boots by Pina Boots Xbox

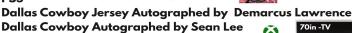
Nintendo Switch \$500 Visa Gift Card

\$500 Gift card to Midland Meat Market **Patio Furniture**









\$250 Gift Card Fun Speaker



OFFICIAL 2025 SCHEDULE

CHANGITO FROM LA CALIENTE

OPENING CEREMONY/PRAYER FATHER BALA 12:00 - 1:00PM LA CALIENTE RADIO REMOTE 2:00 - 4:00 FREDDY GALINDO Y SUS JINETES 4:30 - 5:30 GRUPO PIRAMIDE 6:00 - 7:00PM ERICK Y MASSORE 8:00 - 9:30PM RAFFLE AND CLOSING 9:30 - 10:00PM

RAFFLE + FOOD + DRINKS + MORE

FOR MORE INFO: WWW.STSTEPHENSMIDLAND.COM

GRAND PRIZE

2025 Chevy Trax Includes lifetime oil change and lifetime powertrain warranty







Mitchell,

Cally Esther













TRAININGS FOR NEW ALTAR SERVERS

We warmly welcome youth who have already registered and are beginning to shadow and train to become altar servers.

Required Training for New Servers will be as Follows:

Saturday Aug. 23 9:00 AM - 10:15 Am Youth Building

SERVIUM

Saturday, Sept 6 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM Sanctuary of

Church

Saturday, Sept 20 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM Sanctuary of

Church

Saturday, Sept 27 9:00 AM – 10:15 Am Youth Building

SERVIUM

Training will be ongoing and installation for new servers is going to be on Sunday Nov. 23, 2025 at the 10:00 AM Mass.

Registration is open through August for all youth who have received their First Communion and are interested in joining this very special ministry. Please contact our coordinators using the information below.

Anne Hobbs 432-934-3192 Claribel Lopez Carter 432-302-1929

CAPACITACIONES PARA NUEVOS MONAGUILLOS

Damos una cálida bienvenida a los jóvenes que ya se han inscrito y que están comenzando a observar y capacitarse para ser monaguillos.

Las capacitaciones requeridas para los nuevos monaquillos serán las siguien-

Sábado 23 de Agosto, de 9:00 AM a 10:15 AM

Taller de Jóvenes, SERVIUM

Sábado 6 de Septiembre, de 8:30 AM a 10:00 AM en el

Santuario de la Iglesia

Sábado 20 de Septiembre, de 8:30 AM a 10:00 AM en el

Santuario de la Iglesia

Sábado 27 de Septiembre, de 9:00 a.m. a 10:15 a.m., Taller de Jóvenes,

SERVIUM

La capacitación será continua y la instalación de los nuevos monaquillos será el Domingo 23 de Noviembre de 2025 en la misa de las 10:00 AM

Las inscripciones están abiertas durante todo Agosto para todos los jóvenes que hayan recibido su Primera Comunión y estén interesados en unirse a este ministerio tan especial. Por favor, contacten a nuestros coordinadores utilizando la información a continuación.

Anne Hobbs 432-934-3192 Claribel López Carter 432-302-1929

REGULAR TRAINING SCHEDULE FOR ALL ALTAR SERVERS

Fall Training Schedule: Please mark you calendars. These trainings are required for all servers (new, experienced, advanced, and master). If you are not able to attend the training for your specific Mass please plan to attend one of the other trainings available.

All Trainings are on Sundays from 3:00 to 4:00 PM in the Sanctuary of the church

> For 12:30 PM and 7:00 PM Sunday, September 7

Sunday Mass Servers

Sunday, October 5 For 8:00 AM Sunday

Mass Servers

Sunday, November 2 For 5:00 PM Saturday and Sun-

day Mass Servers

For 10:30 AM Mass Servers Sunday, November 30

HORARIO REGULAR DE CAPACITACIÓN PARA MONAGUILLOS

Horario de capacitación de otoño: Por favor, anoten en sus calendarios. Estas capacitaciones son obligatorias para todos los monaguillos (nuevos, experimentados, avanzados y maestros). Si no puede asistir a la capacitación para su misa específica, planifique asistir a alguna de las otras capacitaciones disponibles.

Todas las capacitaciones se realizan los Domingos de 3:00 a 4:00 PM en el Santuario de la Iglesia.

Domingo 7 de Septiembre: para los monaguillos de las misas dominicales de 12:30 PM v 7:00 PM

Domingo 5 de Octubre: para los monaguillos de las misas dominicales de

Domingo 2 de Noviembre: para los monaguillos de las misas dominicales de

5:00 PM

Domingo 30 de Noviembre: para los monaguillos de las misas dominicales de

10:30 AM

Volunteers Needed to Assist with Care of Altar Server Vestments Se necesitan voluntarios para ayudar con el cuidado de las vestimentas de los monaguillos.

Parent and adult volunteers are needed to assist altar servers with their vestments before and after the Saturday vigil and Sunday masses. Volunteers would spend 15 minutes in the sacristy before and after mass as the servers put on and put away their vestments.

We specifically want to ensure that:

the vestments are properly organized and hung with care;

the altar servers have the appropriate size vestments; and extra vestments are organized and used appropriately.

We hope to have a sufficient amount of volunteers to create a schedule where individuals need only help a couple of times per month at the mass they usually attend, in rotation with other volunteers.

We will host a meeting to train volunteers on Sunday, September 14, 2025 at 2:15 p.m. in the Sacristy. If you are willing to volunteer, please contact Stephanie Basom at stephanie.n.basom@gmail.com.

Safe Environment training is required for all volunteers.

ALTAR SERVERS/MONAGUILLOS

BI-WEEKLY/THURSDAYS

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

CALLING CATHOLIC MEN TO INVEST TIME DIVING INTO THE WORD OF GOD TOGETHER.

LOCATION: ST. STEPHEN'S HALL IN ROOM 8

0



Communion Calls



If anyone is sick and need of Holy Communion, please call Front Office 423-520-7394





ST. STEPHEN CATHOLIC CHURCH PARISH HALL BINGO

LICENSE #398431/TEMPORARY LICENSE #400330

NOTE: \$30.00 PAPER SET

FIRST SESSION

BINGO	CARD COLOR	PAYOUT
1. LETTER X.	BLUE	\$200.00
2. DOUBLE BINGO	ORANGE	\$200.00
3. THREE LAYER CAKE	GREEN	\$250.00
4. LARGE PICTURE FRAME	YELLOW	\$200.00
5. THREE BINGOS	PINK	\$500.00



INTERMISSION



SECOND SESSION

SECOND SESSION		
6. B-N-O	GRAY	\$200.00
7. DOUBLE BINGO	OLIVE	\$200.00
8. SMALL PICTURE FRAME	BROWN	\$250.00
WITH 4 CORNERS		
9. 4 CORNERS WITH ONE	RED	\$200.00
STRAIGHT BINGO		
10.BLACKOUT	PURPLE	\$700.00

PULL TABS AND DABBERS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

YOUTH NIGHT



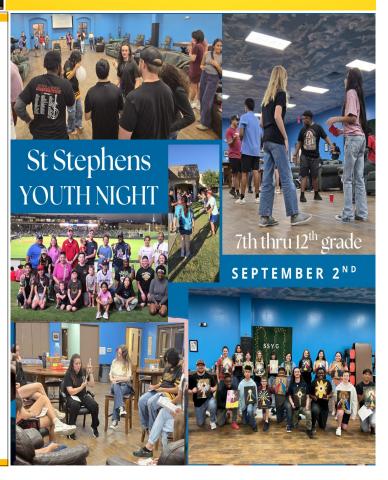
SEPTEMBER 2, 2025 AT 6 PM - 8 PM AND EVERY TUESDAY

ALL STUDENTS 7^{TH} THROUGH 12^{TH} GRADES ARE INVITES TO ATTEND



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: CARLOS GARCIA YOUTHDIRECTOR@STSTEPHENSMIDLAND.COM

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF PRAYER AND FUN!



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	8 families	\$	3,123.20
Water	1 family	\$	564.79
Rent	12 families	\$ 2	6,301.73
Transportation	1 family	\$	579.90
TOTAL	-	\$ 3	0,569.62

Author and lecturer Leo Buscaglia once talked about a contest he was asked to judge. The purpose of the contest was to find the most caring child. The winner was a 4-year-old whose next -door neighbor was an elderly man who had recently lost his wife. Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old gentleman's yard, climbed onto his lap and just sat there. When his mother asked him what he had said to the neighbor, the little boy said. "Nothing. I just helped him cry."

Oftentimes those who come to us for help have no family, friends, or loved ones to care for them, and they suffer from terrible loneliness. They need, more than anything else, to know that there are people out there who care. When our caseworkers meet with them, we offer a smile, an attentive ear, a helping hand...a moment of attention. When we do that and are also able to ease a financial burden by assisting with rent, a utility or a prescription, then we are helping to guide them through their dark times. And in doing so, we are blessed to discover that we have been a part of a long and very beautiful journey. Thank you for making our efforts possible through your continued support of Helping Hands!

SEPTEMBER TRUCK SCHEDULE

Our truck will be at **St. Stephen's on Saturday September 6** and at St. Ann's on Saturday, September 20 from 9 am until 1 pm to accept your donations. We appreciate the Knights of Columbus councils from both churches for taking on this very important project!

Please pray for the following:

Jose G, Daranee T, Raul H, Faith S, Neha N, Andrea B, Daniel C, Froylan G, Joel, Cesar, Teresa P, Alonso Family, Gustavo C, Erika C, Rios Family, Santa Cruz Family, Caceres Family John C, Amanda O, Roy, Tania C, Elizabeth H, Elidia V, Rogelio V, Dalia H, Fr. Edward B, Noah L, Natalie & Matthew, Natalie T, Anne H, Jonathan R, Anne H, Alan M, Richard R. Maria M. Jesus M. Belinda S. Leonardo A. Noah L, Mirna L, Brenda G, Lacey G, 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. Reiio. Aino, Kalevi, Seppo, Birgitta, Gape, Alexandra L, Bertta, Otto, Tatiana T, Samantha S, Joel L, John & Britney V, Jeremy & Marissa T, Eddy & Maria L, Dinh M, Theresa C, Loretta G, Andrea B, Sylvia S, Javier Maria A, Isaiah, Victoria & Vanessa V, Kathen H.

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!

DEAR FRIENDS,

National Faith and Blue Weekend is an annual observance in the U.S. to show appreciation for those who work in law enforcement, and to promote more cooperation between law enforcement and the communities they serve.

I encourage you to consider how you might observe this at your local level.

They have a website where you can list your parish activities for Faith and Blue Weekend, and they have some resources that you could use locally. In the joy of Christ's service,

Bishop Michael Sis

Please support the work of campus ministers sharing the Gospel with college and university students in our diocese

AUG 31, 2025 SECOND COLLECTION





Sister Christina Chavez, CDP 432-215-8169 or cchavez@sanangelodiocese.org



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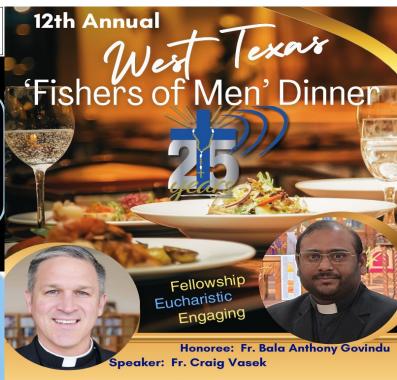
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