

# ST STEPHEN MARTYR CATHOLIC CHURCH

## A GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

A pregnant woman was walking in the store and met an old friend. Her friend exclaimed, "You are absolutely beaming!" The new life God placed in her womb radiated throughout her body. It was brightly visible on her face and in her eyes. Transformation and change usually happen from the inside out. It is very rare that simply imposing structure from the outside does any good. Yes, it is true that routines and habits can change when things are done differently. But, for this change to last there has to be an interior renewal and metamorphosis as well. Simply regulating behavior and bringing someone into conformity with accepted protocols doesn't mean their heart and soul come with them.

Peter was a homeless man who lived in a very remote and rudimentary tent community. He was happy to make his daily trip to McDonald's and always welcomed a gift card or two so that he could buy some coffee and something to eat. A generous advocate worked to secure him an apartment in hopes of moving Peter out of his makeshift housing and into something safer. Peter finally got the grand tour of his new "digs," received his own key, remarked how wonderful the place was, closed the door behind him when they left and never returned. He preferred his tent. No matter how much things changed on the outside, Peter was happy where he was. A poignant lesson was learned that day.

How is your Lent going? By now you ought to have a sense of whether you're really "into it" this year and something transformational is happening. For many, it's only the stuff on the outside that changes for a few weeks and then they return to business as usual. For others, there are some real inner changes happening that are deepening their relationships with God, others, self, and creation. If we are serious about moving to a new place and radiating with the presence of new life and joy, then we have to clear the way to listen for God's call. Then, there is God's request to change things up a bit and order our lives differently. After realizing we have been called and given a mission, we have to trust that this is where we need to be. And then, after all of this hard work we are asked to act. The fruit that is revealed will indicate whether our journey is authentic. The brilliance of conversion will begin to shine on our faces as we contemplate the One to whom we are asked to listen.

- Fr. Joseph Magdaong  
Pastor
- Fr. Ali Kanissius  
Associate Pastor
- Armando & Irene Estrada  
Deacon Couple
- Alicia Vazquez  
Office Manager
- Dale Ann Torbey  
Secretary / Bookkeeper
- Diane Gehner  
School Principal

### MASS SCHEDULE

- Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM  
(English)
- Sunday 9:00 AM (Spanish)
- 11:00AM (Indonesian)

### Reconciliation

- Monday–Thursday  
4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
- Saturday  
2:00 PM - 3:30 PM
- By appointment only

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

- Monday - Friday  
9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- Please call the parish office for assistance as the office is closed for in person business.

## FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

6:30 P.M.

### Bilingual Mass

7:00 P.M. — 8:00 P.M.

Adoration and Mass will take place on Friday, March 5th in the parish parking lot, and will adhere to the same rules as weekend Mass.

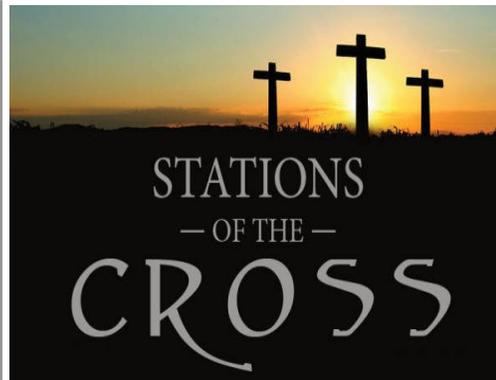
Please call the parish office if you plan to attend.

### Infant Baptism

For more information and guidance regarding Infant Baptism, please contact the parish office. We are pleased to assist your family with this first and important Sacrament.

### Mass Intentions Requests

Please call the parish office if you would like to offer a Mass of remembrance or in celebration of a loved one for the 2021 calendar year. The suggested donation per intention is \$10.00.



Every Friday during Lent  
(with the exception of Good Friday)

6:00 PM

**(Note: Stations will start at 5:30pm on March 5th with First Friday Adoration to follow at 6:30pm)**

This event will take place in the parish parking lot. Everyone will be asked to remain in their vehicles as images of the Stations are projected onto a large screen for everyone to see and pray upon.

Please call the parish office if you plan to attend.

*"We are a diverse faith community that strives to conform ourselves into the image of Christ in and through the power of the Holy Spirit, and nourished by The Word, Sacraments and Tradition to give glory to God and to be a light unto the nations."*



Adoración del Santísimo Sacramento  
6:30 PM.

Misa bilingüe  
7:00 P.M.— 8:00 P.M.

La adoración y la misa se llevarán a cabo el viernes 5 de marzo en el estacionamiento de la parroquia y seguirán las mismas reglas que la misa de fin de semana.

Por favor llame a la oficina parroquial si planea asistir.



St. Stephen Martyr  
Church Community  
Outreach

# DISTRIBUCION DE COMIDA

SI USED NECESITA COMIDA, POR FAVOR LLAME A LA OFICINA PARROQUIAL PARA INSCRIBIRSE PARA RECIBIR COMIDA

FECHA LIMITE DE INSCRIPCION:  
8 DE MARZO

PARA INSCRIBIRSE O PARA OBTENER MAS INFORMACION, LLAME AL (626) 573-0427

320 Garvey Ave, Monterey Park, CA 91754

\*TAMBIEN SE ACEPTAN DONACIONES DE COMIDA Y DONACIONES MONETARIAS\*

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## INTENCIONES

Favor de llamar a la oficina parroquial si le gustaraia ofrecer una misa de recordatorio o en celebracion de un ser querido para el año 2021. La donacion por intencion es \$10.

### Primera Lectura— Lectura del Libro de Genesis

En aquel tiempo, Dios le puso una prueba a Abraham y le dijo: “¡Abraham, Abraham!” Él respondió: “Aquí estoy”. Y Dios le dijo: “Toma a tu hijo único, Isaac, a quien tanto amas; vete a la región de Moria y ofrécemelo en sacrificio, en el monte que yo te indicaré”.

Cuando llegaron al sitio que Dios le había señalado, Abraham levantó un altar y acomodó la leña. Luego ató a su hijo Isaac, lo puso sobre el altar, encima de la leña, y tomó el cuchillo para degollarlo. Pero el ángel del Señor lo llamó desde el cielo y le dijo: “¡Abraham, Abraham!” Él contestó: “Aquí estoy”. El ángel le dijo: “No descargues la mano contra tu hijo, ni le hagas daño. Ya veo que temes a Dios, porque no le has negado a tu hijo único”.

Abraham levantó los ojos y vio un carnero, enredado por los cuernos en la maleza. Atrapó el carnero y lo ofreció en sacrificio en lugar de su hijo.

El ángel del Señor volvió a llamar a Abraham desde el cielo y le dijo: “Juro por mí mismo, dice el Señor, que por haber hecho esto y no haberme negado a tu hijo único, yo te bendeciré y multiplicaré tu descendencia como las estrellas del cielo y las arenas del mar. Tus descendientes conquistarán las ciudades enemigas. En tu descendencia serán bendecidos todos los pueblos de la tierra, porque obedeciste a mis palabras”. **Palabra de Dios**

### Segunda Lectura—

#### Lectura de la Carta de San Pablo a los Romanos

Hermanos: Si Dios está a nuestro favor, ¿quién estará en contra nuestra? El que no nos escatimó a su propio Hijo, sino que lo entregó por todos nosotros, ¿cómo no va a estar dispuesto a darnoslo todo, junto con su Hijo? ¿Quién acusará a los elegidos de Dios? Si Dios mismo es quien los perdona, ¿quién será el que los condene? ¿Acaso Jesucristo, que murió, resucitó y está a la derecha de Dios para interceder por nosotros?

#### Palabra de Dios

### Evangelio—El Evangelio según San Marcos

En aquel tiempo, Jesús tomó aparte a Pedro, a Santiago y a Juan, subió con ellos a un monte alto y se transfiguró en su presencia. Sus vestiduras se pusieron esplendorosamente blancas, con una blancura que nadie puede lograr sobre la tierra. Después se les aparecieron Elías y Moisés, conversando con Jesús.

Entonces Pedro le dijo a Jesús: “Maestro, ¡qué a gusto estamos aquí! Hagamos tres chozas, una para ti, otra para Moisés y otra para Elías”. En realidad no sabía lo que decía, porque estaban asustados.

Se formó entonces una nube, que los cubrió con su sombra, y de esta nube salió una voz que decía: “Éste es mi Hijo amado; escúchenlo”.

En ese momento miraron alrededor y no vieron a nadie sino a Jesús, que estaba solo con ellos.

Cuando bajaban de la montaña, Jesús les mandó que no contaran a nadie lo que habían visto, hasta que el Hijo del hombre resucitara de entre los muertos. Ellos guardaron esto en secreto, pero discutían entre sí qué querría decir eso de ‘resucitar de entre los muertos’. **Palabra de Dios**

**First Reading - A Reading from the Book of Genesis**

God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am!" he replied. Then God said: "Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you."

When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the LORD's messenger called to him from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!" "Here I am!" he answered. "Do not lay your hand on the boy," said the messenger. "Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son." As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son.

Again the LORD's messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said: "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore; your descendants shall take possession of the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing—all this because you obeyed my command." *The Word of the Lord*

**Second Reading -**

**A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans**

Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him?

Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us, who will condemn? Christ Jesus it is who died—or, rather, was raised—who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

*The Word of the Lord*

**A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to St. Mark**

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant. *The Gospel of the Lord*

**WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2021**

5:00 pm  
Linda Santos (D)  
Jose & Josefa Fernandez (D)  
Estrella Alpas (D)  
Dody Garcia (D)  
Linora Vazquez (D)  
Judy Kohler (D)  
Sonny Garcia (D)

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2021**

9:00 am  
Guadalupe Peña (D)  
Graciela Peña (D)  
Francisco Trigeros (D)  
Ricardo Serrano (D)  
Animas Benditas del Purgatorio



HELPING  
THOSE  
IN NEED

**FOOD  
DISTRIBUTION**

IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF FOOD PLEASE  
CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE TO SIGN UP  
TO RECEIVE FOOD DONATIONS

**SIGN UP  
ENDS:  
MARCH 8TH**

**TO SIGN UP OR FOR MORE  
INFORMATION PLEASE  
CALL:  
(626) 573-0427**

St. Stephen Martyr Church  
320 Garvey Ave, Monterey Park, CA 91754

\*NON-PERISHABLE FOOD AND MONETARY DONATIONS ARE ALSO BEING ACCEPTED\*