



Advent

PREPARING THE WAY



ST. STEPHEN
CATHOLIC CHURCH

NOVEMBER 29, 2020

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, November 28th

5 PM (English)

Iola Burrigge, RIP

Sunday, November 29th

8 AM (English)

People of Our Parish

10 AM (English)

Montagno Family, RIP

12 PM (Spanish)

La familia de Magallanes

Tuesday, December 1st

John C. Lusk, RIP

Minnie Gaudet, RIP

Wednesday, December 2nd

Rita Voelkel, RIP

Thursday, December 3rd

Mary Kennedy, RIP

Daily Mass Schedule

Tuesday—Friday at 9:00 AM

Daily Masses are live streamed

Friday, December 4th

Catholic Daughters of the Americas

Saturday, December 5th

5 PM (English)

Ralph Loran, RIP

Sunday, December 6th

8 AM (English)

People of Our Parish

10 AM (English)

Schackner Family, RIP

12 PM (Spanish)

La familia de Magallanes

Temporary Church Office Hours

Monday thru Friday—9am-Noon



Youth Group Meeting

December 2nd &
December 9th

6:30—8:00 PM
The Clubhouse

All events are at
saintstephenc.org/st-stephen-youth

PARISH STAFF

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St. Stephen Website:
<https://saintstephenc.org>

REFLECT

FIRST READING

We hear today the prophet Isaiah's internal spiritual struggle as he questions God's ways and decries our human tendency to sin. What spiritual struggles do you need to confront as we enter into the season of Advent?

SECOND READING

In his opening words to the Corinthian Christians, Paul reminds the faithful of God's fidelity to those who believe in his Son. He then cites examples of the blessings they have received since coming to the faith. What are some blessings you have received in your faith journey?

GOSPEL READING

Jesus instructs his disciples to be vigilant for the end times. How can you make this spiritual discipline a focus of your Advent season this year?



PROMISE To Protect Pledge To HEAL

IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF OUR PARISH AND YOU SERVE IN ONE OF OUR MINISTRIES, AND YOUR SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING HAS EXPIRED, THIS CLASS IS FOR YOU!

"Keeping the Promise Alive"

WHEN:

TUESDAY DECEMBER
1ST 10:00-11:30 AM

WHERE

Room 1-2

Visit

www.virtusonline.org to
register for this class.

- PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED.
- PLEASE ARRIVE 15 MINUTES PRIOR TO THE SESSION.
- NO CHILDCARE PROVIDED.
- DUE TO THE MATERIAL, NO CHILDREN ARE ALLOWED.
- Please Wear mask and practice social distance.

For more information
contact Lilia Arevalo at:

lilia@saintstephenc.org



Sunday Bulletin Date	Noon Bulletin Announcement Deadline
12/13/20	12/2/20
12/20/20	12/9/20
12/27/20	12/14/20

Bulletin Notices- Deadline is noon Wednesday the week prior to the bulletin date. Please use the electronic bulletin submission form located on the church website. Email your bulletin submission forms to: dorothy@saintstephenc.org

Mass Intentions- Contact the office to have a Mass dedicated to a friend or loved one. Suggested donation is \$10.

Quinceañera- Six-month notice required - young lady must be attending Religious Education classes and Mass *regularly*. Contact Church Office at 817-596-9585.

Quinceañera- Se requiere un aviso de seis meses: la joven debe asistir a clases de Educación Religiosa y a misa *regularmente*. Para mas información favor de contactar la oficina de la Iglesia al 817-596-9585.

Prayer Chain Coordinators

Ann Allen 817-594-8637
Paula Allen 817-597-4522

Prayer Shawl Ministry- For information about how you can get involved in this ministry by either making the shawls or donating supplies contact Francie Tucker at 972-841-4807 or franciet.64@gmail.com.

Ministry of Care Team- Please contact the office if you have a family member or friend who is homebound, in a nursing home, or rehab center and would like a visit from a member of our team. We offer prayer and Holy Communion on a weekly basis to those in our Catholic community who request sacramental services. For more info call the office at 817-596-9585.

RCIA- For information about how to become Catholic or the Catholic faith, contact the RCIA Team at 682-582-8205.



CROSSROADS INITIATIVE

Visit the holiest places in early Christendom and experience the beauty of the Italian countryside on this summer pilgrimage. Led by international tour guide and theological historian Marcellino "Dr. Italy" D'Ambrosio this 11-day trip will take you to the cities of Assisi, Florence, and Rome.

Explore ancient basilicas, the treasures of the Vatican, and attend a Papal Audience in St. Peter's Square. Enjoy daily Mass with the chaplains who will accompany this very special tour. Dr. Italy will be our principal guide, providing expert commentary on saints, sites, and shrines of Italy. The following website provides more information: crossroadsinitiative.com under "Pilgrimages" pull down tab.

For more information, contact John Shackelford at theonlyshack@gmail.com or (512) 579-6718



INFORMATION ON LIVE STREAMED MASSES

Masses will be live streamed from the parish Facebook page. You will find the link on the parish website. saintstephenc.org

The Mass -Live Stream tab is at the top of the home page. Once inside click on the Facebook link and it will take you to the Mass being live streamed.

In addition, you can watch previously recorded Masses from the website. You will see that option just below the Facebook link.

Live Stream Mass Schedule

Tuesday thru Friday—9:00 AM

Sunday—10:00 AM

Domingo a las—12:00 PM

Protocols For Attending Mass in Person

- If sick or exhibiting symptoms of any illness, stay home.
- If over the age of 60, you are encouraged to stay home.
- In the obligation of charity to our neighbors, it required that people in attendance at Mass wear masks or scarves over their mouth and nose inside the church.
- Sanitize hands before entering the church.
- The number of people who attend Mass will be LIMITED to a number that can safely present within the guidelines set by the Governor and the CDC with social distancing of 3 feet.
- The St. Stephen Daily Masses will be live streamed. Those who cannot be admitted may watch the Mass in their vehicles and may receive Holy Communion in the Sanctuary after Mass. Social distancing must be maintained.
- Holy Communion will be received in the hand, not on the tongue.

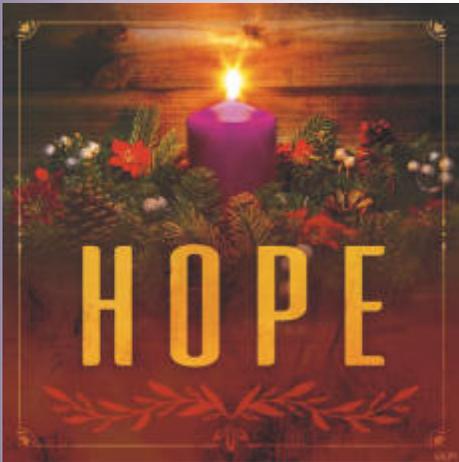


Reconciliation at the Church

Please refer to the church website for the updated schedule. saintstephenc.org

- *If you are attending on a Saturday, exit the church after your confession to complete your penance.
- *Please practice social distancing while you are waiting your turn and during your confession.
- *Wear a mask or scarf that covers your mouth and nose.

Celebrating Advent



1st Sunday of Advent Reflection

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Blessed first Sunday in Advent to each of you!

Advent and Lent are the two penitential seasons of the church year. However, Advent is a season in anticipation of the birth of Christ in time. Now, what is meant by "the birth of Christ in time"? Our four Sundays of Advent are not just Sundays in preparation for the birth of a child destined to become the Savior of the nations, but the birth of a child every day in the hearts of every Christian and the future return of the second coming in time where everything will be taken back by our God.

In today's Gospel, for some this reading might strike fear into their hearts: "...perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will die of fright." Even today, we hear about doomsday sayers professing the end of the world on a particular date. To be sure, the end of the world will come! However, we truly do not

know the time. Only God knows when God will call everything to return to him.

In the final lines of today's Gospel we are told to "be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent."

This first Sunday in the season of Advent is a time for us to joyfully await the coming of Christ for the first time, at birth; for the second time, into our everyday lives; and looking forward to the last time when he will come to take all of creation back to his Father.



Advent Prayer of Reconciliation

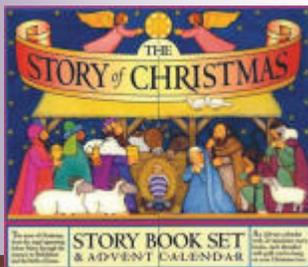
Merciful Father,

You have given us your Son as your loving presence in this world.

Create in our hearts the room for your love to grow.

Forgive our shortcomings and prepare our hearts for your coming.

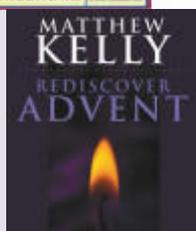
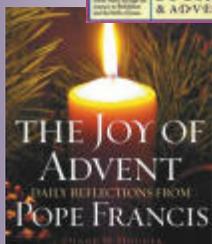
We ask this in the name Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, one God, forever and ever,
Amen.



Advent Reading

Dive into an Advent devotional, read scripture daily, or read the story of the Nativity as a family!

"When we pray, we speak to God; but when we read, God speaks to us."
-St. Jerome



Family Fun



Danish Advent Wreath Recipe

For the pastry:

- 2 envelopes yeast
- 1 c. milk, brought almost to boiling
- 1/2 c. shortening or butter
- 1/2 c. sugar
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2 beaten eggs
- 4 1/2 c. flour

For the filling:

- 2 Tbsp. butter (melted)
- 3/4 c. sugar
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/4 c. golden raisins, raisins, or craisins

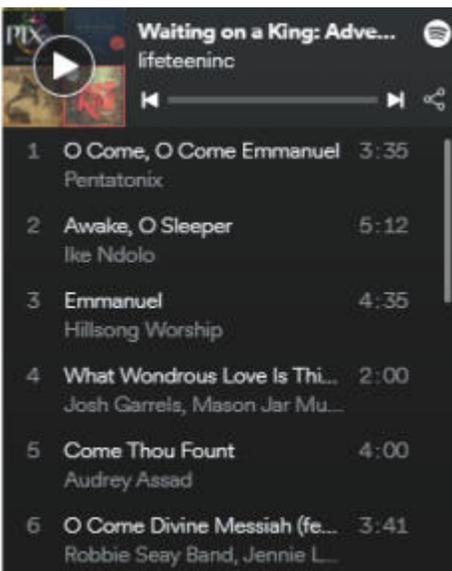
Combine last three ingredients.

For the Glaze:

- 1 egg yolk
- 2 Tbsp. milk

Directions

1. Place the milk, shortening, sugar, and salt in a small saucepan. Heat until the shortening (or butter) is just melted. Cool to lukewarm and sprinkle in the yeast. Let sit for about 5 minutes while the yeast gets fizzy, or “proofs” (if you want to get technical).
2. Add the eggs and the flour, mix until dough forms.
3. Knead on a lightly floured surface until smooth and elastic (for about 8 minutes)
4. Place in a greased bowl, turn once, and cover with saran wrap. Let rest in a warm place (I often use the oven) until double.
5. Punch the dough down, Cover and let rest for 10 minutes.
6. Divide the dough into three pieces. Roll each of these pieces into strips about 2 inches in diameter. Brush the pieces with the melted butter and roll in the filling. Braid the strips together, working from the middle out toward each end. Turn the ends together to form a wreath 12 inches in diameter. Use a well-greased bundt pan for a tighter-looking wreath or if you don't have a bundt pan, you can use a cookie sheet as below:
7. Cover and let rise again until double. (about 30-40 min)
8. Brush with the glaze and bake at 350 for 25-30 minutes.



Advent on the go!

Look up “Waiting on a King: Advent Music” by Life Teen or Matt Maher’s Advent album called “The Advent of Christmas!”

Listen to the Abiding Together podcast for guest speakers and more Advent preparation from Michelle Benzinger, Heather Khym, and Sister Mariam James Heidland!

Download the Hallow app on your phone to have quick access to daily meditations, prayers, and more!



Center of Hope Christmas Celebration



This will be a drive thru only, not in the building.

Friday, December 18th and Saturday, December 19th
10:00 AM—4:00 PM



Volunteers are needed to help pass out food and other items to Center of Hope Clients.
Christmas Carolers and Christmas Cookies are also needed.

Center of Hope is collecting: blankets, hats, gloves and socks

Children, middle school and above are allowed to accompany a Volunteer Adult.

We hope you will sign up to share with others in the Celebration of Emmanuel, God with us.

To coordinate this effort Volunteers are asked to sign up at
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044BA8AA2AA13-center> or
contact Diane Garcia at (817) 929-6184 or d-garcia@live.com

THANK YOU

for your generosity

Many thanks to the 18 volunteers who folded mail pamphlets and boxed and loaded food items for 3 days at the Center of Hope. Your time was greatly appreciated by the Center and Clients. Thank you!

Center of Hope Christmas Basket Success!

We collected a total of 1,604 Cans of Cream of Mushroom Soup and a total of 1,095 containers of Fried Onions! We exceeded our goal of 800 each. Thank you St. Stephens.

Many families in Parker County will now have green bean casserole as part of their Christmas dinner due to your generosity. Merry Christmas!

-Diane Garcia



Drive-By Donation Event

The Ladies Auxiliary to the Discalced Carmelite Nuns of the Most Holy Trinity will be hosting a drive-by donation event on **Tuesday, December 1, 2020, from 10:00, am to 2:00 pm at the Monastery in Arlington.**



We have the comfort of knowing we have the Nuns praying for us and our families during the COVID-19 pandemic. Mother Anne Teresa and the Nuns are very grateful for the support and love we give them throughout the year.

During this event, we are asking for pantry gifts and donations. A friendly note, our Nuns are vegetarians so no meat, please. If you are able to make a financial donation, please placed it in a sealed envelope. As always, you can place your prayer intentions along with your donation. For more information, please contact Debbie Sullivan at (817) 319 - 7616.



SAVE THE DATE
#iGIVECATHOLIC
December 1, 2020

Tuesday, **December 1**
to support the
Annual Diocesan
Appeal during
#iGiveCatholic

fortworth.igivecatholic.org

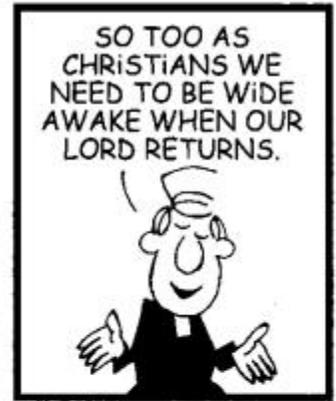




1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT



THE SEASON OF ADVENT
MEANS THERE IS SOMETHING
ON THE HORIZON
THE LIKES OF WHICH WE HAVE
NEVER SEEN BEFORE.
— JAN RICHARDSON



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kofc.org/un/en/join/index.html or contact the Church Office

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