The Order of Mass

# 2nd Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy Sunday

April 6 & 7, 2024 † 5 p.m. Vigil † 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. † 6 p.m.



Welcome to St. Stephen's Catholic Community!

We are so glad you are here to worship with us today.

Upon the conclusion of Mass, please return your worship aid to one of the entrances of the church. Thank you!

# Divine Mercy Prayer by St. Faustina

O greatly Merciful God, Infinite Goodness, today all mankind calls out from the abyss of its misery to Your mercy---to Your compassion, O God; and it is with its mighty voice of misery that it cries out. Gracious God do not reject the prayer of this earth's exiles! O Lord, goodness beyond our understanding, Who are acquainted with our misery through and through, and know that by our own power we cannot ascend to You, we implore You; anticipate us with Your Grace and keep on increasing Your mercy in us, that we may faithfully do Your holy will all through our life and at death's hour. Let the omnipotence of Your mercy shield us from the darts of our salvation's enemies, that we may with confidence, as Your children await Your final coming - that day known to You alone. And we expect to obtain everything promised us by Jesus in spite of all our wretchedness. For Jesus is our Hope: Through His merciful Heart as through an open gate we pass through to heaven.

Amen.

## The Mass is made up of two parts:

The Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. There are also certain rites that open and conclude the celebration.

#### THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

The purpose of the Introductory Rites is to ensure that the faithful who come together as one establish communion and dispose themselves to listen properly to God's word and to celebrate the Eucharist worthily.

## **Entrance Song**

# O Sons and Daughters



#### Gloria



### Collect

*The Collect is made up of three parts:* 

- 1. The invitation ("Let us Pray").
- 2. Silent prayer by all gathered.
- 3. The formal prayer proclaimed by the priest, which "collects" the individual prayers of the people and offers them to God.

#### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the readings God speaks to His people, opening up to them the mystery of redemption and salvation, and offering spiritual nourishment; and Christ himself is present through His word in the midst of the faithful.

Reading I Acts 4:32-35

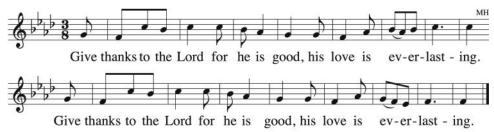
A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common. With great power the apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great favor was accorded them all. There was no needy person among them, for those who owned property or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds of the sale, and put them at the feet of the apostles, and they were distributed to each according to need.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. *All respond: Thanks be to God.* 

# Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 118



Responsorial Psalm (6 p.m.)

Psalm 118: 2-4, 13-15, 22-24

Response: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Reading II 1 John 5:1-6

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John.

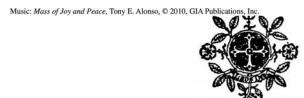
Beloved: Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God, and everyone who loves the Father loves also the one begotten by him. In this way we know that we love the children of God when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whoever is begotten by God conquers the world. And the victory that conquers the world is our faith. Who indeed is the victor over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came through water and blood, Jesus Christ, not by water alone, but by water and blood. The Spirit is the one that testifies, and the Spirit is truth.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. *All respond: Thanks be to God.* 

# Gospel Acclamation Please Stand.

We welcome and greet the Lord who is about to speak to us in the Gospel. During this time, we stand and face the ambo as a special reverence for the Gospel of Christ. The "Alleluia" is sung in every time of year, except Lent.





**Gospel** John 20:19-31

This is the high point of the Liturgy of the Word, which is why we stand for the reading, the priest kisses the Book of the Gospels and proclaims the reading, and there is often candles and incense used.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. *All respond:* And with your spirit.

Celebrant: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

All respond: Glory to You, O Lord.

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holv Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

All respond: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

# Homily Please be seated.

#### **Profession of Faith**

The whole people respond to the Word of God proclaimed in the readings and explained in the homily, and honor and confess the great mysteries of the faith.

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

(bow) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man (stand upright).

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead

# **Universal Prayer**

Response: Lord, Hear Our Prayer

We pray for the needs of the Church, the world, and our community.

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

A collection is taken for our parish during the Preparation of Gifts.

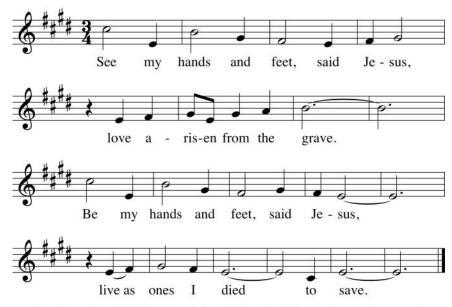
Every second Sunday of the month, St. Stephen's takes a second collection to support various charitable and advocacy organizations.

To support our parish electronically, scan the QR code:



# **Preparation of Gifts**

# Be My Hands and Feet



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# **Invitation to Prayer**

Please Stand.

Celebrant: Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours

may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All respond: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and

glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

## The Eucharistic Prayer

This is the center and high point of the entire Mass. This prayer requires that all listen to it with reverence and in silence.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. *All respond:* And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts

All respond: We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All respond: It is right and just.

## **Preface Acclamation**

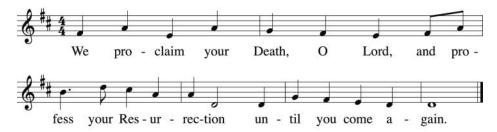


Text: ICEL, © 2010 Music: Mass of Joy and Peace, Tony E. Alonso, © 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

#### Please Kneel.

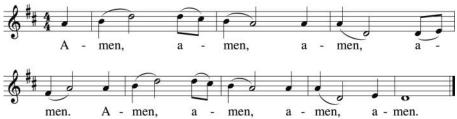
Throughout the rest of the Eucharistic Prayer, the Holy Spirit is called down upon the gifts (The Epiclesis; bells are rung once at this point); the words of Christ at the Last Supper are prayed; Christ's perpetual sacrifice on the cross is remembered; and prayers are made for the Church, the world, and all the people, living and dead.

## **Memorial Acclamation**



#### Amen

This "Amen" is affirmation, our statement of "I believe", to the entire Eucharistic Prayer.



Please Stand.

# The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: ...as we await the blessed hope and the coming

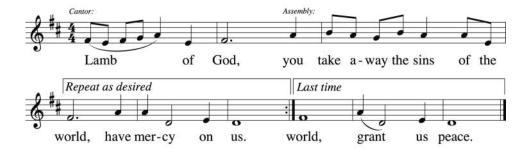
of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

All respond: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are

yours now and for ever.

## Lamb of God

The priest puts a piece of the host into the chalice to signify the unity of the Body and Blood of the Lord in the work of salvation.



Please Kneel.

Celebrant: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes

away the sins of the world. Blessed are those

called to the supper of the Lamb.

All respond: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter

under my roof, but only say the word and my

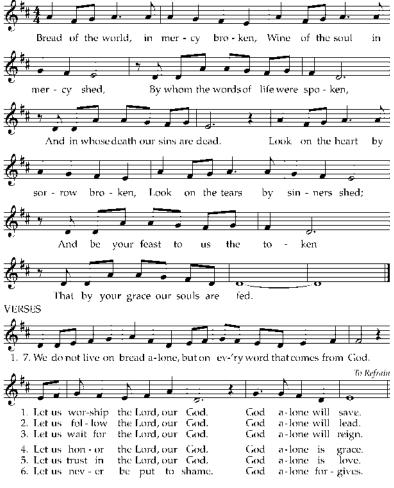
soul shall be healed.

#### Communion

All Catholics who have prepared themselves to receive Holy Communion are invited to come forward. Our brothers and sisters of other faiths are invited to approach with arms crossed over the chest to signal the desire to receive a blessing.

## **Communion Song**

Bread of the World



### **Meditation**



Text: Based on Revelation 5:9–14. Text and music © 1997, Ricky Manalo, CSP. Published by Spirit & Song, a division of OCP. All rights reserved.

# Prayer after Communion

Concluding the prayer of the People of God and the whole Communion Rite, the Priest says the Prayer after Communion, in which he prays for the fruits of the mystery just celebrated, The people make this prayer their own when they acclaim "amen."

## THE CONCLUDING RITES

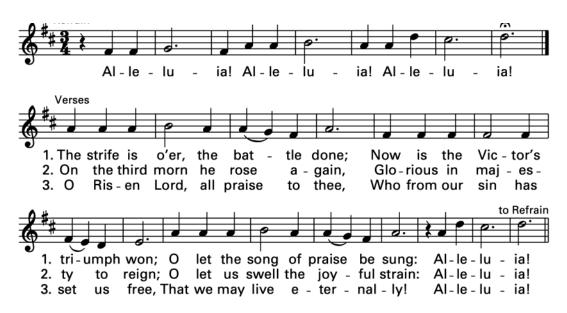
# **Blessing**

Transformed by the power of the Liturgy, we are sent out to seek, love, and serve Jesus Christ through those we meet outside of Mass.

#### **Dismissal**

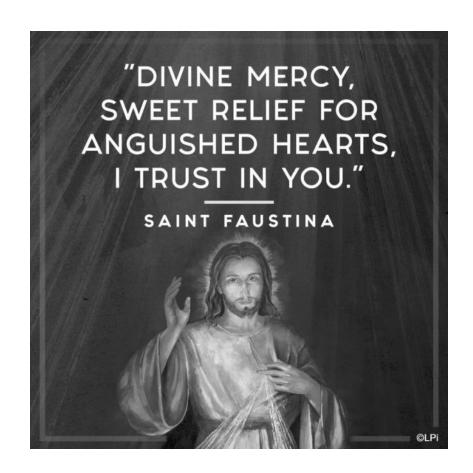
# Closing song

The Strife Is O'er



Text: 888 with alleluias; *Finita iam sunt praelia*; Latin, 12th cent.; tr. by Francis Pott, 1832–1909, alt. Music: Giovanni da Palestrina, 1525–1594; adapt. by Willam H. Monk, 1823–1889.







# SEEK, LOVE, & SERVE JESUS CHRIST www.ststephenchurch.org

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass (Monday-Friday) 5:00 p.m. Saturday 8:30 a.m. Sunday 10:30 a.m. Sunday 12:30 p.m. Sunday (En Español) 6:00 p.m. Sunday

For the latest Parish Bulletin, scan the QR code:

