

May 9, 2025



Yesterday was the Feast Day of **Julian of Norwich**, a 14th century English mystic, theologian and anchoress best known for her spiritual writings, especially *Revelations of Divine Love* — the earliest surviving book by a woman in the English language.

She lived in a time of turbulence and suffering: the Black Death wiped out 1/3 of England's population, the Hundred Year's War exhausted the resources and strength of her country, and ongoing political and religious strife created great confusion about the future. She maintained a certain calm, finding the extraordinary love of God in the ordinary experiences of daily life, and attributing to God the consciousness of a mother. She wrote, "*If there is anywhere on earth*

a lover of God who is always kept safe, I know nothing of it, for it was not shown to me. But this was shown: that in falling and rising again we are always kept in that same precious love." (Kelly Latimore icon).

Staff Update: Welcome to Claudia Basile, Communications and Operations Manager

We are delighted to announce that **Claudia Basile** will be joining St. Stephen's on May 20 as our new Communications and Operations Manager. Claudia is a graduate of Knox College in Galesburg, IL with a degree in History and a minor in Religious Studies. A native of Seattle, she has worked in customer service, e-commerce, and project management at Evergreen Goodwill and QFC, and is very familiar with the Episcopal Church through volunteer connections with St. Luke's, Ballard, St. Peter's, Seattle, and other churches in our diocese.



Claudia will be assuming all the duties of parish administrator and operations manager while also expanding our parish communications via livestream, website, and social media in the coming months. You can find her at church on **Sunday mornings and on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10 am - 5 pm**. She writes, "*I'm so excited to begin my work at St. Stephen's! I'm looking forward to doing my part to support the church's mission and connect with the communities at the parish and in Laurelhurst. I'm always happy to chat and would love to get to know you!*"



The Rev. **Canon Ivar Hillesland** will preach and facilitate a parish forum on **Sunday, May 18 at 11:30 am**. Ivar oversees congregational development, including The College for Congregational Development, leadership formation, and the coordination of consultants in the Diocese of Olympia. A lifelong Lutheran, Ivar is also an avid musician who loves to lead and write music for the church (thereverbcollective.com).

Hadestown, the musical

Roosevelt High School Theater
May 22 - June 1, 2025



Our own **Walter Kinney** is performing in Roosevelt High School's production of Hadestown! Anaïs Mitchell's haunting, jazz-inflected folk opera follows Orpheus' mythical quest to overcome Hades and regain the favor of his one true love, Eurydice. Purchase tickets [here](#).

Update from Beth Cogan on Community Outreach Opportunities

Thank you to everyone who stayed Sunday April 6th to hear about needs at the University District Food Bank and from the Eckstein Social Work. Here is the link to the **Eckstein Community Cupboard Wishlist**. Any donation are appreciated and will benefit families.

We have also included a link to the **SESSFA Move-a-Thon Fundraising Drive**. Seventeen South Seattle public schools unite for the 5th Annual SE Seattle Schools Fundraising Alliance Annual Move-a-thon. Please help spread the word and contribute if you can!



As the Salmon Run, a new play by Elizabeth Clark-Stern

Saturday, May 31 and June 7, 2:00 pm
Good Shepherd Center, 4649 Sunnyside Ave, Room 202

Elizabeth Clark-Stern invites you to the performance of her new play. We are grateful she is donating a portion of the proceeds to St. Stephen's!

As the Salmon Run takes place in the not-too-distant future. The natural and human environments are in a state of flux. The engineer who built the 15th dam on the Columbia River in Eastern Washington opens her home, the so-called "After House," to people displaced by the warming climate. She is sensitive to criticism that her dam hastened the extinction of species in the river, and wants to provide a stable dwelling for those unhoused in body and soul. Guests arrive whose mere presence challenges the climate refugees to build community, experience love, and embrace hope in a world reeling from ecological, social, and political change.

Many thanks for the 45+ responses so far to our parish survey. We'll be back with results in the coming weeks. If you haven't replied, there is still time!



[Respond to Survey](#)

Funeral for Ann ("Skipper") Skelly
Saturday, June 28 at 10:00am
Epiphany Parish
1805 38th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98122



Coming Up at St. Stephen's

Sundays 10:00 am Holy Eucharist and Coffee Hour (Nave and Parish Hall)
Sundays 3:00 pm. Youth Group Food Program (Narthex)
Wednesdays 6:30 pm Men's Bible Study (Parish Hall)

April 18 11:30 am Forum with Canon Ivar Hillesland (Parish Hall)
April 26 1:00 pm Funeral for Barbara Bennett (Saint Mark's Cathedral)
June 28 10:00 am Funeral for Skipper Skelly (Epiphany Parish)

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