

## **Commentary on the Gospel for Mon, Dec 26th 2011**

### **Stephen, First Martyr REFLECTION**

In this Octave of Christmas, we remember people in the bible and tradition who have followed Jesus Christ in a radical way. Today we commemorate Stephen, the first martyr. By standing up to his belief in Christ, he shared His fate—suffering and death. But like Christ, his sacrifice gave birth to new life—more lives following Jesus. The martyr's blood is seed that bears much fruit.

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