Mission Statement

Saint Stephen Parish, as guided by the Holy Spirit and empowered by the Sacraments, is sent forth to know, love and serve God. For the salvation of souls, we endeavor to evangelize the Gospel message through Christ-centered ministries and truthful witness. Our parish pledges fidelity to the Magisterium, the teaching authority of the Holy Catholic Church. We offer traditional, orthodox and reverent practice of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for the edification of the faithful and for the making of saints. The Saint Stephen parish family seeks to actively build a culture of life and recognizes the dignity of all persons as children of God.

Parish Office Hours
Monday thru Friday 9am-5pm
Closed Saturday/Sunday/Holidays

Pastoral Staff
Pastor:
Rev. Caroli B. Shao, A.J.
Parochial Vicar:
Rev. Benjamin Koka, A.J.
Latin Mass Celebrant:
Rev. Bede Kotlinski, OSB
German Mass Celebrant:
Rev. S. Michael Franz (Ret.)

Parish Staff
Church Secretary:
Debbie Hemphill
Church Accountant:
Russ Nieling
Maintenance:
Glenn Rollins
Sacristan:

Organists:
Joe Kolecki and Matthew Tirabassi
Cantors:
Virginija Muliolis and Teagan Webb
Latin Schola Director:
Nathan Marinich & Matthew Eccher
St. Vincent de Paul:
Herb Rielinger

Metro Catholic Parish School
1910 West 54th Street
Allison Klutarich, Director
Sr. Anne Maline, SND, Director Emerita
216-281-4044

Sisters of Notre Dame Convent
1891 West 57th Street
216-631-0754

Reconciliation
Saturday: 4:15-4:45pm
Sunday: 9-9:20am (or by appointment)

Baptism
The baptism of infants and children under the age of seven is celebrated monthly. Call the Parish Office to Register.

Marriage
Weddings should be arranged with the Pastor at least 6 months in advance.

Anointing of the Sick/Funerals
Contact the Parish Office to arrange.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
Those wishing to become Catholic are encouraged to contact the Parish Office at 216-631-5633.
This Week’s Church Services

MASS SCHEDULE

We welcome all Parishioners and Visitors to Mass at St. Stephen. The Confession schedule is as follows—

- Saturday: 4:15—4:45pm — Church — Confessional box
- Sunday: before 9:30am Mass — Church — Confessional box

Please call the Parish Office to schedule a private Confession.

Saturday, February 3, 2024 — Church

Vigil of the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00 PM † Martin J. Hess

The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 AM †† William and Helen Kroesen
11:00 AM German Mass — † Albert Juhasz, Ph.D.

Tuesday, February 6, 2024 — Rectory Chapel

Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr
6:30 PM Holy Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, February 7, 2024 — Church

Weekday
6:30 PM Tamara Bevelacqua and Family
7:00—8:00 PM Confession, Holy Hour, Benediction

Thursday, February 8, 2024 — Church

Weekday
6:30 PM Latin Mass — John N. Krock and Family

Friday, February 9, 2024 — Rectory Chapel

Weekday
6:30 PM Latin Mass — John and Alice

Saturday, February 10, 2024 — Church

Vigil of the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00 PM Joel Regula

Sunday, February 11, 2024 — Church

The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 AM The Intentions of the John N. Krock Family
11:00 AM Alumni Mass — Living and Deceased Members of the St. Stephen Alumni Association; † Joe Londrico

Contact the Parish Office at 216-631-5633 to schedule a Mass intention. The customary stipend (offering) is $10.00.

CELEBRANT & LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
FEBRUARY 3, 2024 — FEBRUARY 4, 2024

Celebrant:
Lector:
EM:
Acolyte:
5:00PM MASS
Fr. Caroli
Glen Sneed
Jean Gandee
8:00AM MASS
Fr. Caroli
Diana Lipfird
11:00AM MASS
Dr. Tina Waters
Kevin Kroesen

THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
FEBRUARY 10, 2024 — FEBRUARY 11, 2024

Celebrant:
Lector:
EM:
Acolyte:
5:00PM MASS
Fr. Benjamin
Fred Courtright
Jean Gandee
8:00AM MASS
Fr. Franz
Doris Peters
11:00AM MASS
Kevin Kroesen

All Sundays at 9:30am & Holy Days: Rev. Bede Kotlinski

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 4

Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39
Monday: 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13/Mk 6:53-56
Tuesday: 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30/Mk 7:1-13
Wednesday: 1 Kgs 10:1-10/Mk 7:14-23
Thursday: 1 Kgs 11:4-13/Mk 7:24-30
Friday: 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19/Mk 7:31-37
Saturday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/1 Cor 10:31—11:1/Mk 1:40-45

Prayer of Unity

Almighty and eternal God,
You have promised that there will someday be but one fold and one Shepherd.
Hasten that day, we pray You,
in Your most merciful kindness and generosity.
Pour the light of Your grace
into the minds of our non-Catholic friends
so that they may see the truth,
and fully realize that the truth is one and undivided.
Give them also the strength of will
needed to follow in the direction of the light You give them.
Let us, their neighbors and friends,
not be a hindrance to their conversion by our bad example.
Rather let Your goodness be made clear to them by the virtue
of our lives.
Then may they finally all be brought to You,
the Light that enlightens every man who comes into the world.
Amen.
~ catholic.org

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. ~ Romans 15:13
In the face of problems even God-fearing people express their dissatisfactions and anger. In today’s readings, Job and Paul revealed their individual hardships in their lives. Job compared his life to miserable and unfortunate people. He considered that his pains exceeded the pains of others. While his friend Paul explained the challenges he faced in his preaching the Gospel free of charge and how he made himself a slave to all to win them to Christ. We should understand that sufferings are real in all parts of the world. Currently, millions of people go hungry, suffer in hospitals, many are running for their lives due to wars, others have no jobs. In some countries, Christians are targeted in their places of worship, schools, or homes to make the situations hard to practice their faith. Fortunately, the Gospel offers a lasting solution for all Christians in Jesus. Jesus has Divine Power to conquer all sicknesses, drive out evil spirits, raise the dead, forgive sins and gradually to set us free. The mission of Christ, by the virtue of our Baptism, has become the mission of believers to liberate the people by their faith in Jesus through their words and deeds. ~ Fr. Benjamin Koka, A.J.

Please pray for the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marie Adamo</th>
<th>Tadaaki Hatta</th>
<th>Victoria Miller</th>
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<td>Luann Ashby</td>
<td>Tim Hennessy</td>
<td>Sarah Morkeberg</td>
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<td>Lawrence Blasius</td>
<td>Kosmerl Family</td>
<td>Greg Ray and Family</td>
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<td>Karen Kranstueber</td>
<td>Herb Rielinger</td>
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<td>Ann Caldwell</td>
<td>Sr. Jane Lab</td>
<td>Katie Schneider</td>
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<td>Linda Lucas</td>
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<td>Joe Eshleman</td>
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<td>Ruth Martin</td>
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<td>Maureen Masterson</td>
<td>Mary Jo Tacka</td>
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<td>Susan Hatta</td>
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Brother Kevin Cush—Vocation to Priesthood and Religious Life
Sean Homcy—Vocation to Priesthood
Abbé Nicholas Johann—Vocation to Priesthood
Sister Rose-Marie (Rose Johann) of the Passion of the Royal Heart,
Burning Furnace of Mercy
Brother Connor Scully—Vocation to Priesthood
First Responders—Officer Chris Larson, and Lt. Timothy Maffo-Judd

The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ February 3 and 4, 2024

"O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God." Psalm 95 (94): 6-7

The Tower Lights are being illuminated during the month of February
In Memory Of and On Behalf Of

The St. Stephen High School
Class of 1963

Please remember them in your prayers!

Traditions and Treasures

In recent years, there has been a resurgence of interest in various forms of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Some people suggest that this recovers an ancient tradition in the church, when in fact the practice belongs to a later time. The custom of showing the consecrated host to the people, enclosed in a vessel called a monstrance, developed in a period of history when even very pious people received Communion only rarely. The opportunity to see the host raised high above the head of the priest at Mass, or to see the host exposed outside of Mass, was thought by many to be a form of spiritual Communion. Without question, our Catholic practice of reserving the consecrated host both for adoration and Communion of the sick and dying is a cherished tradition.

Over the next few weeks, we’ll look at how these traditions developed and how the Church envisions reservation and adoration today. We do this by the light of the liturgical reforms that have restored a heightened appreciation for how receiving the Body and Blood of Christ is central to our worship. “Perpetual Adoration,” “Reservation,” “Benediction,” and “Reposition” are all part of the Catholic vocabulary. Often the terms are misused, and a tangled history—as well as widely varying practices in our parishes—adds to the confusion. Many Catholics today have never participated in Benediction, or even spent time in adoration on Holy Thursday night. There’s plenty of interesting history, much of it surprising and challenging, and we will do our best to inform you along the way.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Pro-Life Corner—Abortion Survivors

- Child psychiatrist Philip Ney relates, "A woman reported telling her nine year old son about her abortion, which had taken place years before he was born. He said, 'I knew, Mom, that there was something wrong. I always have nightmares about knives and my mother killing me. I have an imaginary brother who wants to kill me. If you had not aborted the other, would you have aborted me?" (Abortion Survivors, p.36).
- This is a story repeated more times than most people realize, and representing a societal and pastoral problem whose proportions are greater today than at any previous time in history: the phenomenon of tens of millions of abortion survivors.
- It is clear that abortion's primary victim is the child who is killed. It has also become increasingly clear that to kill the child is to harm the mother and father as well. What is not always so well known, however, is that abortion makes its impact felt on those who have had a sibling aborted, and that this impact is felt in surprising and astonishing ways, which also have wider implications for the whole of society. ~ priestsforlife.org
**Parish Announcements**

**JANUARY 28, 2024
OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

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Thank you all for your generosity!

**Online Contribution Option**

DID YOU KNOW?.....you can contribute to St. Stephen Church through an online donation directly from the St. Stephen website at: ststephencleveland.org

Whether you want to make an Offertory, Ecclesia Nostra (EN) or any other Designated contribution, all you need to do enter the Amount you wish to contribute, select the Destination Account you’d like to donate to, add your transaction to your Shopping Cart, and then complete the Checkout/Payment process.

New! We are additionally now offering ON-LINE Giving for both scheduled and recurring donations. Click on the YELLOW BOX—“Schedule a Gift” and follow the prompts.

Note: This is in addition to the ON-LINE Giving already in use. Please contact the Parish Office with any issues or questions: 216-631-5633.

**JANUARY 2024
ONLINE CONTRIBUTION COLLECTION**

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Thank you all for your generosity!

**MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES WEEK OF FEBRUARY 4, 2024**

- **Sunday, February 4**
  - Schola Practice (CR)..............8:00am
  - German Social (R)..............after 11:00am Mass
- **Thursday, February 8**
  - RCIA (St. Colman)..............6:00pm
- **Saturday, February 10**
  - PSR (1st Communion) (CR).....9:00am
  - (C) Church • (CR) Club Room • (SFR) Saint Francis Room • (R) Rectory

**2023 Annual Contribution Statements are now available.**

Please call the Parish Office to request your statement. Statements can be sent directly to you by email or by regular mail.

**Catholic Charities Appeal 2024**

The 2024 Catholic Charities Appeal will take place next weekend in our parish. A bit earlier this year due to the start of Lent, the in-pew commitment will take place on February 10-11. Please refer to the insert at the exits of the Church which includes our parish’s goals and an overview of the importance of Catholic Charities in our communities. This year’s appeal theme is “Transformed by your love.”

All who have not received the mailing from Bishop Malesic or have not had a chance to respond to it will be asked to consider making a generous pledge to support the ministries and services provided by Catholic Charities. Your generous support will transform the lives of others, to offer dignity, possibilities and companionship to those who are most vulnerable.

**2024 Pierogi Lenten Fundraiser**

**FOURTH ANNUAL PIEROGI FUNDRAISER**

We are once again offering the same wonderful Sue’s Pierogis you’ve enjoyed at past fish fries. These homemade pierogis will be fully cooked. Take them home and heat them up, add some sautéed onions and sour cream and you can have a little taste of our annual Lenten Fish Fry. If you want to purchase enough for the Lenten season, they can be frozen.

You will be able to place your order either by Order Form (found in back of Church) or via Email AND you will have two opportunities to place your order.

**PIEROGI SELECTIONS (sold by the dozen)**

- **Savory Pierogi:** Potato / Potato with Cheese / Potato with Onion / Sauerkraut
- **Sweet Pierogi:** Cottage Cheese / Lekvar-Prune filled

**Cost:** $13.00/dozen – Accepting Cash or Check (make checks payable to St. Stephen Church)

- First Order Form deadline: Sunday, February 25
- First Email order deadline: Wednesday, February 28
- First Order pick up: Friday, March 8
- Second Order Form deadline: Sunday, March 10
- Second Email order deadline: Wednesday, March 13
- Second Order pick up: Friday, March 22

**Paper Order Forms** are located at the back of the church. Completed forms with payment can be placed in the collection basket.

**Email Orders** can be sent to: ststephendh@gmail.com

Provide your name, phone number, type of pierogi you want, and the quantity.

(i.e. Potato with Cheese / 1 dozen). Payment due at pick up.

**Order Pick Up:** from 4:30pm and 7:00pm at the St. Stephen Fish Fry....located in the Michael Building Cafeteria.

Limited copies of the Magnificat Lenten Companion, and the One Bread, One Body Winter into Lent booklets are available at the exits of the Church to help enhance your spiritual journey during this Lenten Season. Look for them at the exits of the Church. Pick up yours now while supplies last!
St. Stephen Lenten Fish Fry
Every Friday During Lent Except Good Friday

Starting February 16, the Fish Fry will be in full swing from 4:30-7:00pm with all of your favorites from the past. Full menus will be included in upcoming bulletins as well as at: ststephencleveland.org. Enjoy a good meal with good company!

The Fish Fry will be served 6 Fridays during Lent: February 16, 23 and March 1, 8, 15, 22

Meals will be served in the school cafeteria next to the Convent Building, 1891 W. 57th St. Access the cafeteria from the church parking lot off of W. 57th St. Signs will be posted. If you can’t stay to eat in, all dinners and side orders are available for take-out.

Want to get involved?
Pastry donations (home-baked or store-bought) are always welcome. Drop them off at the church during business hours on Thursday or Friday, or call the rectory at (216) 631-5633 Wednesday to arrange a pick-up.
Call Herb at (216) 402-7437 for more information.

Lent begins on Wednesday, February 14, 2024. We invite everyone to bring last year’s palms to the Church. They are needed early to have time to burn the palms, and get them prepared for Ash Wednesday. Please place them in the box near the small table in the back of the Church.

Ash Wednesday is a day of universal fast and abstinence in the Church. Since February 14 is celebrated by many couples as Valentine’s Day, please be aware that there is no dispensation given for this day which marks the solemn beginning of Lent.

Ash Wednesday Masses and Distribution of Ashes:
4:30pm — English Mass
6:30pm — Latin Mass

GUIDE ON FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

Abstinence:
Begins on one’s 14th birthday.
Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent.
Abstain from meat.

Days of Fast:
Applies to everyone aged 18 to 59, inclusive.
Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
One full meal permitted and two other meals may be taken which, when combined, are less than a full meal.
If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of our Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and celebrate more readily His Resurrection.
Those that are excused from fast and abstinence outside the age limits include the physically or mentally ill including individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also excluded are pregnant or nursing women.

2024 Dioecesan-wide Evening of Confession
The 2024 dioecesan-wide Evening of Confession will take place on Wednesday, February 28, 2024 from 5-8 p.m.
In acknowledgement and thanksgiving for prayers mercifully answered through the intercession of St. Jude.

“O praise ye the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.” ~ Ps 117:29

Contact the Parish Office at 216-631-5633.

Help defray our costs of printing with your “freewill offering” and see your advertisement here in future Weekly Bulletins!

GOD BLESS and THANK YOU!

Parish Community Advertisements

We sell Latin Mass Missals and Mantillas!

Specializing in vintage religious items for your home!

We deal in vintage clothing and household items!

We sell Latin Mass Missals and Mantillas!