The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ February 10 and 11, 2024

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 Niealing
Maintenance:
Glenn Rollins
Sacristan:

Organists:
Joe Kolecik 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.

English Weekend Masses
Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 8:00am & 11:00am

German Weekend Mass
1st Sunday of every month: 11:00am

Weekday, Holy Days & Holidays
See full schedule inside Bulletin

Adoration and Devotions
Holy Hour, Confession and Benediction — Wednesdays: 7:00pm
Rosary — Sundays: 9:00am
1st Friday Mass & Benediction: 6:30pm
1st Saturday Mass & Lecture: 9:30am
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 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

Monday, February 12, 2024—Rectory Chapel
Weekday
6:30 PM  George Michaels and Katy Tillinghast

Tuesday, February 13, 2024
Weekday
6:45 AM  Latin Mass (Church) † Frank Marinich
6:30 PM  (Rectory Chapel) † Gladys Jankowski

Wednesday, February 14, 2024—Church
Ash Wednesday
6:30 PM  Parishioners
7:00-8:00 PM  Confession, Holy Hour, Blessing

Thursday, February 15, 2024—Church
Thursday after Ash Wednesday
6:30 PM  Latin Mass — Michael and Helena Araps

Friday, February 16, 2024—Church
Friday after Ash Wednesday
5:00 PM  † Harriet Martindale
5:30 PM  Stations of the Cross

Saturday, February 17, 2024—Church
Vigil of the First Sunday of Lent
5:00 PM  † Thomas Hayne, † Hildegard Spaeth and † Walter Spaeth

Sunday, February 18, 2024—Church
The First Sunday of Lent
8:00 AM  † Harvey Deike
11:00 AM  †† Eugene and Clara Lees

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

Celebrant: Fr. Benjamin
Lector: Fred Courtright
EM: Jean Gandee
Acolyte:

5:00PM MASS
8:00AM MASS
11:00AM MASS
Fr. Benjamin
Fred Franz
Fr. Benjamin
Fred Courtright
Doris Peters
Matt Minarik
Jean Gandee
Kevin Kroesen
Kevin Kroesen
Matt Minarik

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
FEBRUARY 17, 2024—FEBRUARY 18, 2024

Celebrant: Fr. Caroli
Lector: Russ Niebling
EM: Jerry Nowesnick
Acolyte:

5:00PM MASS
8:00AM MASS
11:00AM MASS
Fr. Caroli
Fr. Franz
Fr. Caroli
Russ Niebling
Kevin Kroesen
Kevin Kroesen
Jerry Nowesnick

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 11

Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/1 Cor 10:31—11:1/Mk 1:40-45
Monday: Jas 1:1-11/Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18/Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Lk 9:22-25
Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Mt 9:14-15
Saturday: Gn 9:8-15/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

Prayer for Faith

Lord, I believe:
I wish to believe in Thee.
Lord, let my faith be full and unreserved, and let it penetrate my thought, my way of judging Divine things and human things.
Lord, let my faith be joyful and give peace and gladness to my spirit, and dispose it for prayer with God and conversation with men, so that the inner bliss of its fortunate possession may shine forth in sacred and secular conversation.
Lord, let my faith be humble and not presume to be based on the experience of my thought and of my feeling; but let it surrender to the testimony of the Holy Spirit, and not have any better guarantee than in docility to Tradition and to the authority of the magisterium of the Holy Church. Amen.

~ catholic.org

Your are merciful to all, O Lord, and despise nothing that you have made. You overlook people’s sins, to bring them to repentance, and you spare them, for you are the Lord our God.

~ Wisdom 11:24, 25, 27
What we Christians need in this journey of faith is courage, trust and confidence of the leper in today’s gospel. He believed strongly in the healing power and the mercy of God. "If you wish, you can make me clean," this was his approach to Jesus. This should be our approach too, if we have the inclination to fall into serious sin. Jesus does will and does want our salvation. This is another proof of both his will and desire to help us. "All power has been given to me in heaven and on earth," he stated (Mt. 28:18). Part of that power which he left to his Church is in the sacrament of penance where the leprosy of sin can be washed away, and the sinner restored to new and perfect spiritual health. What folly for we Christian then, to commit sin and isolate ourselves, like the unclean leper, from God. But it is greater folly still, to remain in this unclean state when the cure for this disease is so easily available to all of us!

~ Fr. Caroli Shao, A.J.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marie Adamo</th>
<th>Tadaaki Hatta</th>
<th>Victoria Miller</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Luann Ashby</td>
<td>Tim Hennessey</td>
<td>Sarah Morkeberg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Bailey</td>
<td>Catherine Henry</td>
<td>Kevin Mulholland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Becka</td>
<td>Cecilia Hoefer</td>
<td>Tom O'Donnell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom Beerecheck</td>
<td>Agnes Hogan</td>
<td>Juliana Ore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Berg</td>
<td>Dianna Hosta</td>
<td>Kenneth Pachasa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burley Blankenship</td>
<td>Joe Kolecki</td>
<td>Christopher A. Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence Blasius</td>
<td>Kosmeri Family</td>
<td>Greg Ray and Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenneth Brady</td>
<td>Karen Kranstueber</td>
<td>Herb Rielinger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann Caldwell</td>
<td>Sr. Jane Lab</td>
<td>Katie Schneider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruth Casto</td>
<td>Justin Latchney</td>
<td>Ken Schneider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Cavoli</td>
<td>Sr. Linda</td>
<td>Michael Sherman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fran Corbin</td>
<td>Jim Lisi</td>
<td>Allan Shoman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deacon Moisés Cruz</td>
<td>Linda Lucas</td>
<td>Jill Snedden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Eland</td>
<td>Inis Lustri</td>
<td>Glenn Sneed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe Eshleman</td>
<td>Ruth Martin</td>
<td>Sharon Sneed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Fisher</td>
<td>Jennifer Martinc</td>
<td>Wayne Sneed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyoko Fry</td>
<td>Maureen Masterson</td>
<td>Mary Jo Tacka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Fry</td>
<td>Cielo McClain</td>
<td>Edward Tadiello</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Grech</td>
<td>Robin McClain</td>
<td>Evelyn Trucks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doris Harboldt</td>
<td>Ben McDonald</td>
<td>Fr. Albert Veigas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhonda Harrel</td>
<td>Steve McElroy</td>
<td>Noel Walters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan Hatta</td>
<td>Patricia McGonegal</td>
<td>Devon Zink</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Traditions and Treasures**

The Blessed Sacrament was not reserved in church buildings in the first centuries of the church. In those early years, of course, people met in borrowed “house churches,” gathering on the Lord’s Day for community, apostolic teaching, the breaking of the bread, and the prayers, as Acts of the Apostles tells us. Dispersed, people went their way into the workaday world until the next assembly. Weighing down their hearts was the absence of brothers and sisters, not only the sick, but those imprisoned for the faith. No wonder they developed a way of extending the food of the Holy Table to them.

Forty years ago, every altar boy in training heard about Saint Tarcisius. He was a twelve-year-old boy at the time of intense persecution in fourth-century Rome. His community had begun to convey the consecrated bread from their Eucharist to those condemned to death or awaiting trial. Normally deacons did this, but on one occasion, it was necessary to send the boy to bear the holy mysteries to the prison. The legend says that he was an athlete, and was detained on the way by some playmates who wanted him to join in their game. When he refused, they demanded to know what he was carrying. The situation went from bad to worse, and he was badly beaten and died of his injuries. A hundred years later, a pope called him a second St. Stephen. In the nineteenth century, Cardinal Nicholas Wiseman of England wrote a novel in which he expanded the story and popularized it. By then, no one seemed to notice that this twelve-year-old was actually touching and ministering the Eucharist, unthinkable until recently. Scholars say the story rings true: the first reason for setting some Eucharistic bread aside was not adoration, but Communion of the sick. —Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

**Pro-Life Corner**

Pope Benedict XVI said the following words in his encyclical letter “God is Love”: “In sacramental communion I become one with the Lord, like all the other communicants. As Saint Paul says, “Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread” (1 Cor 10:17). Union with Christ is also union with all those to whom he gives himself. I cannot possess Christ just for myself; I can belong to him only in union with all those who have become, or who will become, his own. ... Love of God and love of neighbour are now truly united: God incarnate draws us all to himself. ... Here the usual contraposition between worship and ethics simply falls apart. “Worship” itself, Eucharistic communion, includes the reality both of being loved and of loving others in turn. A Eucharist which does not pass over into the concrete practice of love is intrinsically fragmented” (n. 14). These words remind us of our calling to love all our neighbors, born and unborn.

~ priestsforlife.org

---

**The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 11, 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
Parish Announcements

FEBRUARY 4, 2024
OFFERTORY COLLECTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Collection</td>
<td>$2,856.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>$1.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altar Cloths</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Fund</td>
<td>$220.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candles</td>
<td>$139.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecclesia Nostra</td>
<td>$2,253.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Friday</td>
<td>$193.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Pantry</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Donation</td>
<td>$655.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Memory Of</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank you all for your generosity!

Catholic Charities Appeal 2024

The 2024 Catholic Charities Appeal is underway with an in-pew commitment process taking place this weekend. This is not a special collection; rather, the Catholic Charities Appeal represents the chance for all Catholics to make a significant pledge, payable in installments, to Catholic Charities, Diocese of Cleveland in order to support its mission of a society that stands united in its support of the “east among us”. Many parishioners have received a letter from Bishop Malesic requesting their support. If you have not received this letter, please respond to the in-pew commitment process today!

St. Vincent de Paul Ministry

Your St. Vincent de Paul group at St. Stephens aspires to live out the gospel message by serving the poor with love and respect. During the calendar year 2023, we helped many people with rent support, 5 people with utilities, 1 man with his water bill, a person with funeral expenses, 1 woman with moving expenses, a family facing eviction due to back taxes, a woman who needed a new refrigerator, a person who needed a U-Haul storage space, and an elderly woman who needed a space heater. As you can see, the needs are varied. Many of these people are in desperate straits and look to us for relief. We are your heart and hands in helping the needy in our area by offering person-to-person service delivered with compassion and empathy. In addition to thanking you for your continued financial support, we would like to encourage you to join our group.

Volunteers are needed! We are a small group with a high workload. Be a superhero without the cape! Call Maureen at: 216 926 9442 for details. God Bless You!

MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES WEEK OF FEBRUARY 11, 2024

Sunday, February 11
Schola Practice (CR) ................. 8:00am
Latin Social (CR) .................. after 9:30am Mass

Monday, February 12
Parish Council (CR) ................ 7:00pm

Thursday, February 15
RCIA (St. Colman) .................. 6:00pm

Friday, February 16
Fish Fry (School Cafeteria).. 4:30-7:00pm
English Mass (C)..................... 5:00pm
Stations of the Cross (C) ......... 5:30pm

Saturday, February 17
PSR (1st Communion) (CR) ........ 9:00am

(C) Church • (CR) Club Room • (SFR) Saint Francis Room • (R) Rectory

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

Payment is due at pick up.

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 is 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.

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Michael and Nicole Gereg, parents of Michael Simon who was welcomed into the One Holy Catholic Church by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Sunday, February 11, 2024.

2023 Annual Contribution Statements are now available.

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

We Could Use Your Help!

Thank you all for your generosity!

FEBRUARY 4, 2024
OFFERTORY COLLECTION

2023 Annual Contribution Statements are now available.

Please call the Parish Office to request your statement. Statements can be sent directly to by email or by regular mail.
2024 Lenten Fish Fry

St. Stephen Lenten Fish Fry
Every Friday During Lent Except Good Friday

Starting this Friday, 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 Wednesday, February 14, 2024. 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 Mass and Distribution of Ashes:
6:30pm — English 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 Diocean-wide Evening of Confession
The 2024 diocean-wide Evening of Confession will take place on Wednesday, February 28, 2024 from 5-8 p.m.

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!
We sell Latin Mass Missals and Mantillas!

Specializing in vintage religious items for your home!

We deal in vintage clothing and household items!

Parish Community Advertisements

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!

Thinking about buying or selling?

Diana Horta
440 743 8800
hi@diannaiahomes.com

Rick Salvatore
216-319-6553
lcom@sky.com

Hallowed Home
Maureen Easley
etsy.com/shop/Hallowedhome
Maureen.easley@yahoo.com

Use coupon code: Return15 for 15% discount for repeat customers

Tilma
Our Lady’s Store in Berea
146 Front Street, Berea, OH
(440) 243-1060
Open 10 am - 4 pm
Closed Wednesday & Sunday

Milliwinks
Maureen Easley
www.etsy.com/shop/milliwinks

Tranquil Healing Massage
Joan Donnelly, LMT
Licensed Massage-Therapist
JoanM737@proton.me
216-269-4485

caring, focused, healing touch

Five Star Space
Organized by Amy A. Mushenski
www.5starspace.com

Nancy Lowrie and Associates, LLC
Kristen Ashenbach, MA, LPC
comprehensive behavioral health services & programs

Knights of Columbus
John Desmartaeu, FIC
Field Agent
Phone: 440-926-6060
john.desmartaeu@kc.org

Life Insurance - Long-Term Care Insurance
Retirement Annuities - Disability Income Insurance

Tom & Sally Ann Gaghan
Wellness Consultants

Shaklee
Independent Distributor
20852 Sterling Way
Strongsville, Ohio 44149
440.238.4606
Call: 440.263.9793
TGaghan470@aol.com
pws.shaklee.com/healthylifestyles4u