



St. Stephen Roman Catholic Church

A National Historic Landmark ~ Founded April 1869

Celebrating over 150 Years of Tradition

1930 West 54th Street • Cleveland, Ohio 44102

Parish Office: 216-631-5633 Fax: 216-631-5634

Website: ststephencleveland.org Email: ststephendh@gmail.com

First Sunday of Advent — November 29 & 30, 2025

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:

Athanase Bizige

Organist:

Joe Kolecki

Cantors:

Virginija Muliolis and Teagan Webb

Latin Schola Director:

Nathan Marinchick and Matthew Eccher

St. Vincent de Paul:

Maureen Easley



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.

Reconciliation

Saturday: 4:15-4:45pm

Sunday: 9-9:30am (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.

New Parishioners — Please contact the Parish Office to register.

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

Metro Catholic Parish School

1910 West 54th Street

216-281-4044

Sisters of Notre Dame Convent

1891 West 57th Street

216-631-0754

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, November 29, 2025—Church

Vigil of First Sunday of Advent

5:00 PM † Kathleen Riley

Sunday, November 30, 2025—Church

First Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Intentions of the Sherman Family

11:00 AM Dianna Hosta

Monday, December 1, 2025—Rectory Chapel

Advent Weekday

6:30 PM † Theresa Telisman

Tuesday, December 3, 2025

Advent Weekday

6:45 AM Latin Mass (Church) Bryce Albertson

6:30 PM (Rectory Chapel) † Lorene Hill

Wednesday, December 4, 2025—Church

Saint Francis Xavier, Priest

6:30 PM † Thomas Telisman

7:00-8:00 PM Confession, Holy Hour, Benediction

Thursday, December 5, 2025—Church

Advent Weekday

6:30 PM †† Emily and Jerry Wuensch

Friday, December 5, 2025—Church

Advent Weekday

6:30 PM (Latin Mass) (1st Friday) † Carolyn Marie Sage

Saturday, December 6, 2025—Church

Saint Nicholas, Bishop

9:30 AM (Latin Mass) (1st Saturday) † Francis Boysko

Vigil of the Second Sunday of Advent

5:00 PM † Mario Pekar

Sunday, December 7, 2025—Church

Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Those Suffering from Depression or Addiction

11:00 AM German— The Strifler Family, † Thomas Hayne,
† Walter Spaeth

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



CELEBRANT & LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT NOVEMBER 29, 2025 — NOVEMBER 30, 2025

	<u>5:00PM MASS</u>	<u>8:00AM MASS</u>	<u>11:00AM MASS</u>
Celebrant:	Fr. Caroli	Fr. Caroli	Fr. Caroli
Lector:	Russ Nieling	Lou Ockunzzi	Diana Lipfird
EM:			Dianna Hosta
Acolyte:	Ben Kost		

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 6, 2025 — DECEMBER 7, 2025

	<u>5:00PM MASS</u>	<u>8:00AM MASS</u>	<u>11:00AM MASS</u>
Celebrant:	Fr. Benjamin	Fr. Benjamin	Fr. Benjamin
Lector:	Fred Courtright	Doris Peters	Robert Filippi / Tina Waters
EM:	Jean Gandee		Elizabeth Filippi
Acolyte:	Ben Kost		

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 30, 2025

Sunday: Is 2:1-5/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44

Monday: Is 4:2-6 (second choice)/Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Daily readings at <https://bible.usccb.org/daily-bible-reading>

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Marie Adamo	Dianna Hosta	Jessie Noelker
Doris Bealis	† Russell Kamps	Tom O'Donnell
Berly Blankenship	Kiki Kelley	Christopher A. Park
Thomas John Cables	Kai Kirk	Paul
Ruth Casto	Joe Kolecki	Greg Ray and Family
Rosemary Diemer	Kosmerl Family	Herb Rielinger
Martin Eland	Karen Kranstueber	Herb Rodriguez
Karen Fisher	Fr. Kropac	Rick Salvatore
Kyoko Fry	Sr. Jane Lab	Irene Schroeder
Harry Tom Graef	Sr. Linda	Maureen Sciarriano
Robert Gunn	Ruth Martin	Michael Sherman
Susan Hatta	Maureen Masterson	Glenn Sneed
Tadaaki Hatta	Katie McClain	Sharon Sneed
Raymond Hawley	Rob McClain	Wayne Sneed
Katharina Hayne	Abbie McCoy	Evelyn Trucks
Barb Helon	Rita McDonald	Fr. Albert Veigas
Debi Hess	Steve McElroy	E. K. Wade
Agnes Hogan	Victoria Miller	Noel Walters
Horie Family	Kazuyuki Nagashima	Devon Zink

Brother Kevin Cush—Vocation to Priesthood and Religious Life

Sean Homcy—Vocation to Priesthood

Abbé Nicholas Johanni—Vocation to Priesthood

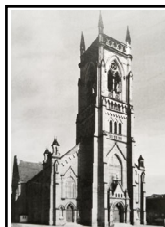
Sister Rose-Marie (Rose Johanni) of the Passion of the Royal Heart,
Burning Furnace of Mercy

First Responder—Lt. Timothy Maffo-Judd

First Sunday of Advent — November 29 & 30, 2025

REFLECTION

Welcome to the New Liturgical Year. The readings of today's Sunday and in fact the whole season of Advent tell us that Jesus has not come just once but He keeps coming. He comes and is present in all joyful and sad events of our lives; He comes and is present in all that happens in the world and in the church; He comes and is present in all those who spread glad tidings, utter words of love, peace, reconciliation and in those who strive to build His kingdom here on earth. This is a reminder to all of us to be vigilant, to keep our eyes wide open to discover and prepare the ways that Jesus has chosen to come and free us from the evil in which we seek pleasure, while it only causes a lot of sorrow. Let our prayer this Advent season be "Maranatha" Come Lord Jesus come. Come in our hearts, homes, churches, communities, schools, hospital, prisons, nations, and in all our places of work. Come and restore peace, love, justice, repentance and forgives in the world. ~ Fr. Caroli Shao, A.J.



The Tower Lights are being illuminated during the month of December
In Memory Of

† William P. Quigley

December 1, 1941 — June 20, 2023

Please remember him in your prayers!

Traditions and Treasures

THE HISTORY OF ADVENT

The name *Advent* [From the Latin word *Adventus*, which signifies a *coming*] is applied, in the Latin Church, to that period of the year, during which the Church requires the faithful to prepare for the celebration of the feast of Christmas, the anniversary of the birth of Jesus Christ. The mystery of that great day had every right to the honour of being prepared for by prayer and works of penance; and, in fact, it is impossible to state, with any certainty, when this season of preparation (which had long been observed before receiving its present name of Advent) was first instituted. It would seem, however, that its observance first began in the west, since it is evident that Advent could not have been looked on as a preparation for the feast of Christmas, until that feast was definitively fixed to the twenty-fifth of December; which was done in the east only towards the close of the 4th century; whereas it is certain that the Church of Rome kept the feast on that day at a much earlier period. ...

The liturgical form of Advent as it now exists in the Roman Church, has gone through certain modifications. St. Gregory seems to have been the first to draw up the Office for this season, which originally included five Sundays, as is evident from the most ancient sacramentaries of this great Pope. It even appears probable ... that St. Gregory originated the ecclesiastical precept of Advent, although the custom of devoting a longer or shorter period to a preparation for Christmas has been observed from time immemorial, and the abstinence and fast of this holy season first began in France. St. Gregory therefore fixed, for the Churches of the Latin rite, the form of the Office for this Lent-like season, and sanctioned the fast which had been established, granting a certain latitude to the several Churches as to the manner of its observance. ...

We may therefore consider the present discipline of the observance of Advent as having lasted a thousand years, at least as far as the Church of Rome is concerned; for some of the Churches in France kept up the number of five Sundays as late as the thirteenth century. — Dom Prosper Guéranger

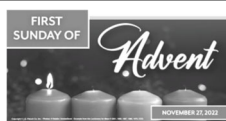
MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES WEEK OF NOVEMBER 30, 2025

Sun, Nov 30	Schola Practice (CR)	8:00am
Thurs, Dec 4	RCIA/OCIA Class (SFR)	6:30pm
	Rehearsal (C)	4:00pm
Sat, Dec 6	First Saturday Lecture (CR)	after 9:30am
	Mass	
	Wedding (C)	1:00pm
	Baptism (C)	directly following
(C) Church • (CR) Club Room • (R) Rectory • (SFR) St Francis Room		

First Sunday of Advent November 30, 2025

It is now the hour for us to rise from sleep.
Prepare for the coming of the Lord.

— Romans 13:11



Parish School of Religion

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Classes for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion are now in session. Registration is closed. Please contact Diana Lipfird at 440-532-9491 or by email if you would like to enroll your child next fall at dlipfird@gmail.com.

Registration for Confirmation Classes for youth ages 13 & above or in 8th grade is now closed.

RCIA / OCIA

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) / **OCIA** (The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) for adults seeking Baptism, Eucharist and/or Confirmation or adults seeking to be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church who have already been validly baptized began on Thursday, October 30, 2025 at 6:30pm in the St. Francis Room. **Registration is now closed.** Dates for registration for the Fall class of 2026 will be announced in September 2026.

NOVEMBER 23, 2025 OFFERTORY COLLECTION

General Collection	\$1,428.00
Children	\$3.15
Candles	\$166.00
Ecclesia Nostra	\$1,946.12
Food Pantry	\$1,000.00
General Donation	\$130.00
St. Vincent de Paul Ministry	\$188.00
Utilities	\$20.00
Diocese: Campaign for Human Development	\$11.00

Thank you all for your generosity!

Parish Announcements

News from the Pews

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony and Elise De Prospro, who were united in the Holy Sacrament of Marriage on Saturday, November 29, 2025!



CONDOLENCES TO...

the Kamps and Guinta family and friends on the death of Parishioner and Usher, **Russell E. Kamps**, who died on November 21, 2025. He dedicated and committed himself in service to our Lord and to the Church. A Funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Stephen on November 25, 2025.



In charity, please pray for his soul.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

Dean's Greenhouse Fundraiser

Looking for Poinsettias other seasonal items or gardening supplies? You can support St. Stephen from **November 15th through December 24th** by shopping at Dean's Greenhouse, 3984 Porter Rd., Westlake, Ohio. Just mention St. Stephen when you check out and we will receive **20%** of your order. Thank you!



St. Vincent de Paul Ministry

During Advent, the Saint Vincent DePaul Ministry will host its annual "Giving Tree" initiative benefiting the Cleveland Pregnancy Center. The Christmas "giving tree" is a way to donate gifts to those who are less fortunate at Christmas.



Please pick an ornament and then purchase the requested item, affix the wooden ornament to the gift and place it beneath the tree. Gifts will be collected sometime during the first or second week of January. Please note that diapers (size Newborn and size 1) only will be accepted. If you wish to donate other sizes, please consider donating to other Cleveland-based prolife organizations.

Thank you for your continued assistance and generosity to the mission of the St. Vincent de Paul Ministry!

2026 Catholic Heritage Calendars

SAINT STEPHEN 2026 CALENDARS

The St. Stephen 2026 Calendars have arrived! You will find them at the ends of pews nearest the side exits, and also on the back table near the front entrance. Please don't forget to pick up your copy!

We wish to thank the Craciun family (Craciun Funeral Home) for their most generous donation of calendars for our Church!

Mission Appeal



APOSTLES OF JESUS MISSION APPEAL

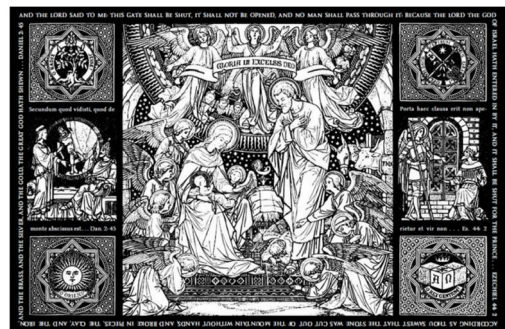
Bishop Edward Malesic has given permission to the Apostles of Jesus to conduct a mission appeal once a year at St. Stephen Church. For those who do not know, our Priests, Fr. Caroli Shao and Fr. Ben Koka, are members of the Apostles of Jesus.

The Apostles of Jesus is a Missionary Order founded in Uganda-Africa in the year 1968 by two Italian Comboni Missionaries for the evangelization of Africa and the World. Working with various Catholic Dioceses in the world, the Apostles of Jesus are engaged in various fields of apostolate, namely: Primary Evangelization, Parish Ministry, Clinical Pastoral Care and Hospital Chaplaincy, Nursing Homes/Aids ministry, and Formation of the Lay Leaders.

All funds raised from this mission appeal will help to educate the many vocations in the society of the Apostles of Jesus in Africa. This mission appeal will take place here at St. Stephen Parish on **December 13 and 14, 2025**. Please prayerfully consider contributing generously to this annual appeal.

ST. ANDREW CHRISTMAS NOVENA

It is piously believed that whoever recites the St. Andrew Christmas novena prayer FIFTEEN times each day from the feast of St. Andrew (November 30th) until Christmas Eve will obtain the favor requested.



CHRISTMAS NOVENA NOV. 30 - DEC. 24

HAIL AND BLESSED BE THE HOUR AND
MOMENT IN WHICH THE SON OF GOD WAS
BORN OF THE MOST PURE VIRGIN MARY,
AT MIDNIGHT, IN BETHLEHEM, IN PIERCING
COLD. IN THAT HOUR, VOUCHSAFE, O MY
GOD! TO HEAR MY PRAYER AND GRANT MY
DESIRES, THROUGH THE MERITS OF OUR
SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST, AND OF HIS
BLESSED MOTHER. AMEN.

Parish Announcements

Candlelight Mass

ADVENT CANDLELIGHT LATIN MASS FEAST OF SAINT JUAN DIEGO

The 17th Annual St. John Berchmans Advent Candlelight Latin Mass will be celebrated by Rev. Bede Kotlinski, O.S.B. on **Tuesday, December 9th, 2025 at 7:00 AM** at Historic St. Stephen Catholic Church, 1930 W. 54th St., Cleveland, OH 44102.

Mass will be served by the St. John Berchmans Altar Servers Ministry (SJB), comprised of students from St. Ignatius, Benedictine, and other local Catholic high schools and Home Schools.

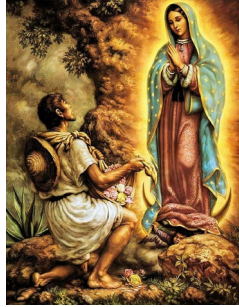
Music will be directed by Annette Spallone Murphy. Prelude will begin at **6:45 AM**.

Latin-English Missals will be available for use during Mass. Rosaries will be distributed and refreshments will be served following the Mass.

The Candlelight Latin Mass is a beautiful way to celebrate the Advent season. Join us as we honor the Feast of Saint Juan Diego, humble messenger of Our Lady of Guadalupe. All are welcome and encouraged to attend this special Mass. Please invite your family and friends.

See a life-sized replica of the Our Lady of Guadalupe Tilma on display at the Mass.

The SJB is inviting Catholic men ages 14-18 interested in learning how to serve the Latin Mass to become new members. Please see Fr. Bede or call the St. Stephen Parish Office at 216.631.5633.



Parish Ministries

Our Parish Ministries are in need of your financial support... The St. Stephen Outreach and St. Vincent DePaul Ministries are supported only by the direct donations of our generous donors. No Offertory, EN, Christmas Appeal or other special campaign donation monies are used to support these critical ministries. Non-parish benefactors such as St. Bernadette's Church and their Knights of Columbus chapter, as well as Mr. Mark Stepowoy who provides monies for Thanksgiving turkeys each year, have kept these ministries afloat. However, the cost of groceries for our monthly Food Pantry has gone up substantially this year, as has the number of those within our community who are in need. In addition to operating the Food Pantry, our Outreach Ministry provides quarterly meals to the House of Champions (a local after-school program that supports inner-city youth living in poverty), conducts our Adopt-a-Family program at Christmas in association with St. Bernadette's parish, and supplements (where possible) the work of our St. Vincent DePaul Ministry in their support of those in desperate need of assistance with rent, utilities, clothing, vehicle repairs, etc.

There are only 4 Food Pantry and 5 SVDP Ministry appeal envelopes issued in a year, but we can accept donations to these ministries at any time during the year. Just indicate on your check or any church envelope that you wish this donation to be applied to our Outreach or SVDP ministries only. Thank you for supporting these critical ministries and the much needed services they provide for our St. Stephen Parish community! 1 John 3:18: "My little children, let us not love in word, or in tongue, but in deed, and in truth."

Around the Diocese



CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION
DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND
Faith, Hope, and Remembrance

The Catholic Cemeteries Association's next Sunday Grief Support Group will be on Sunday Dec. 21st. In-person will meet at 3pm, virtual at 5pm. In a welcoming and supportive setting, find fellowship among others who share their experiences and understand the pain of loss. Meetings are being held on the 3rd Sunday of the month, at no charge to you. Please join us for an hour of listening, healing, and finding comfort with others who understand. For details, call Renee at 216-930-4866 or visit www.clecem.org/Events. For virtual, please register at <https://clecem.org/Information/Bereavement.aspx>

In-Person Locations:

- All Saints, Northfield | 480 W. Highland Road
- All Souls, Chardon | 10366 Chardon Road
- Calvary Cleveland | 10000 Miles Avenue
- Holy Cross, Akron | 100 E Waterloo Road
- Holy Cross, Brook Park | 14609 Brook Park Road
- St. Joseph, Avon | 32789 Detroit Road

Virtual – Please register at <https://clecem.org/Information/Bereavement.aspx>



**THEOLOGY • ON • THE •
ROCKS • WEST**
FOR ADULTS 40 & OVER

Exploring the Impact of Prayer on the Brain

Dec 08, 2025, 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Irish American Club, 8559 Jennings Rd
Olmsted Township, OH 44138

Dr. Jacqueline Phillips-Sabol, Ph.D.; Neuropsychologist & Faith Leader, Director of the Center for Spiritual Healing (Diocese of Erie) Your Brain on Drugs Prayer. Dr. Jacqueline Phillips-Sabol, Ph.D.; Neuropsychologist Faith Leader, Director of The Center for Spiritual Healing (Diocese of Erie) will present scientific data, videos and examples that will explain the effects of prayer and faith on our health, brain function and our lives. Join us for a theologically enriching evening. Cost is \$15.00 per person. Light appetizers included. Cash Bar is available. Advance tickets recommended. Doors open at 6:30pm. To register, go to: www.theologyontherockswest.com.



Parish Community Advertisements

Thinking about buying or selling?

RUSSELL
REAL ESTATE SERVICES

Contact us for all your real estate needs

Dianna Hosta
440-785-6800
dianna@diannasellshomes.com

Rick Salvatore
216-319-6553
brookparksalvatore@gmail.com



Shaklee
Creating Healthier Lives

Tom & Sally Ann Gaghan
Wellness Consultants

Nutritional Products
Sports Nutrition
Green Biodegradable Cleaners
Anti-Aging Skin Care & Makeup
Weight Management Program
Earning Opportunity

20852 Sterling Way
Strongsville, Ohio 44149

Cell: 440.263.9793

TGaghan470@aol.com
us.shaklee.com/site/healthylifestyles4u/storefront

Specializing in vintage religious items for your home!

Hallowed Home
Maureen Easley
etsy.com/shop/Hallowedhome
Maureen.easley@yahoo.com
Use coupon code:
Return15 for 15% discount
for repeat customers

Milliewinks
Maureen Easley
www.etsy.com/shop/milliewinks

We deal in vintage clothing & household items!

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

caring, focused, healing touch



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

We sell Latin Mass
Missals & Mantillas!

PRAYER REQUEST LINES

Carmelite Sisters (Cleveland Hts.) 216-321-6568
Poor Clare Colettines (Rocky River Dr.) 216-941-2820
Poor Clare Nuns (Euclid Ave.) 216-361-0783
Sisters of Notre Dame (Chardon) 440-279-1163
Sisters of Saint Joseph (Rocky River Dr.) 216-252-0548
Sisters of Notre Dame (Chardon) 440-279-1163
Ursuline Sisters (Pepper Pike/Mayfield) 440-449-1200, ext. 103

amy@5starspace.com
216.202.0736

Fivestar Space
Organized by Amy A. Mushinski

Professional Organizing Services
Certified KonMari Consultant

NICK SERIO
PLAQUE SALES,
MARKETING & DESIGN

C: 330.734.8395
O: 440.946.9646

4839 E 345TH ST
WILLOUGHBY, OH 44094

NICK@ACWELLMAN.COM
ACWELLMAN.COM

MCS
METRO CATHOLIC SCHOOL
a Partnership School

✿ Enrolling Now! ✿
Metro Catholic School
A Faith-Filled Education
for PreK-8

Call us at 216-281-4044
Visit metrocatholic.org

Help defray our costs of
printing with your "freewill
offering" and see your adver-
tisement here in future
Weekly Bulletins!
GOD BLESS and THANK YOU !
Please Call the Parish Office
for more information

Catholic Roofing Company
Quality, Care, Craftsmanship
Roofing, Repairs, Siding, Gutters, Solar
Supports TLM and Serving all St. Stephen Parishioners

Call Parishioner **Matt Minarik 440-724-6363**

Free Inspections and Site Survey Report
Residential & Commercial
10% goes to the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre