



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

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time — January 31 and February 1, 2026

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, January 31, 2026—Church

Vigil of the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 PM † Vincent Giorgi

Sunday, February 1, 2026—Church

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM † Rosemary Wagner

11:00 AM German — †† Marie and Adam Schiebli

Monday, February 2, 2026—Church

Presentation of the Lord

6:30 PM Latin Mass — Evelyn Trucks

Tuesday, February 3, 2026—Church

Weekday [Week 4 in Ordinary Time]/St. Blaise, Bishop, Martyr

6:45 AM Latin Mass — The Barile Children

6:30 PM Ann Bolan

Wednesday, February 4, 2026—Church

Weekday [Week 4 in Ordinary Time]

6:30 PM Josh Baumann Family

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

Thursday, February 5, 2026—Church

Saint Agatha, Virgin, Martyr

6:30 PM Latin Mass — Intentions of Felix Stracensky

Friday, February 6, 2026—Church

Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

6:30 PM Latin Mass (1st Friday) Bryce Albertson

Saturday, February 7, 2026—Church

Saturday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM Katharina and Greg Hayne

Vigil of the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 PM †† Emily and Jerry Wuensch

Sunday, February 8, 2026—Church

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Randy Cremeans

11:00 AM Alumni — Living and Deceased Members of the St. Stephen Alumni Association

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



CELEBRANT & LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 31, 2026—FEBRUARY 1, 2026

	<u>5:00PM MASS</u>	<u>8:00AM MASS</u>	<u>11:00AM MASS</u>
Celebrant:	Fr. Benjamin	Fr. Benjamin	Fr. Benjamin
Lector:	Glenn Sneed	Chris Haddock	Friederike
EM:	Jean Gandee		Wintersteller
Acolyte:	Ben Kost		Dianna Hosta

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 7, 2026—FEBRUARY 8, 2026

	<u>5:00PM MASS</u>	<u>8:00AM MASS</u>	<u>11:00AM MASS</u>
Celebrant:	Fr. Caroli	Fr. Caroli	Fr. Caroli
Lector:	Fred Courtright	Doris Peters	Jerry Nowesnick
EM:			Dianna Hosta
Acolyte:	Ben Kost		Ralph Capistrano

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 1, 2025

Sunday: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1-12a
Monday: Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
Tuesday: 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3/Mk 5:21-43
Wednesday: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Mk 6:1-6
Thursday: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/Mk 6:7-13
Friday: Sir 47:2-11/Mk 6:14-29
Saturday: 1 Kgs 3:4-13/Mk 6:30-34

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Doris Bealis	Kiki Kelley	Tom O'Donnell
Berly Blankenship	Kai Kirk	Maria Papp
Thomas John Cables	Jim	Christopher A. Park
Ruth Casto	Joe Kolecki	Paul
Julio Castro	Kosmerl Family	Greg Ray and Family
Rosemary Diemer	Karen Kranstueber	Herb Rielinger
Martin Eland	Fr. Kropac	Herb Rodriguez
Karen Fisher	Katharina Kosmalski	Rick Salvatore
Kyoko Fry	Sr. Jane Lab	Irene Schroeder
Harry Tom Graef	Sr. Linda	Maureen Sciarrino
† 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
Dianna Hosta	Jessie Noelker	

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

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time — January 31 and February 1, 2026

REFLECTION

In today's Gospel, Jesus describes those who are truly fortunate, those who have wisely chosen to follow the way of the beatitudes. But it is not the emperors, conquerors, politicians, priests, and the wealthy who enjoy this favor. Rather, it is the common people, those whom the earthly success has largely passed by; the poor, the humble, the oppressed, the persecuted, the just, and the peacemakers. How can this be? The answer is unequivocal that even though they may have been denied worldly success, what cannot be taken away from them is their potential to live rightly and justly with one another. It is all too easy for those who enjoy the pleasures of this world from their hilltop mansions to float above such obligations. Jesus goes on to say that so long as ordinary people stand for the right things and do not retreat in their rightness before those who seem to have more power, what is right and just will always prevail. It's their kingdom, a kingdom organized not from the top down, but from the bottom up. In the beatitudes, Jesus offers a description of the community of goodwill, His teachings will build in this world. Let us all strive to follow the way of the beatitudes.

~ Fr. Caroli Shao, A.J.

Latin American—El Salvador Collection

This weekend's collection for Latin American—El Salvador is the main support for two Diocese of Cleveland Priests who work in two parishes served by our Mission Office. This appeal also makes a contribution to the Collection for the Church in Latin America that is managed by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops and benefits projects and the formation of seminarians, religious and lay leaders in 23 countries across Latin America.

Catholic Charities Appeal 2026

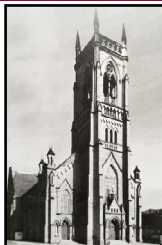
Yours are the hands. Many parishioners received letters in January, inviting their support of the Appeal. Please pray for the good work of Catholic Charities and make a pledge today. Your donation makes a difference! Your support of the 2026 Catholic Charities Appeal on February 14th-15th will help us serve those individuals who are most in need and most vulnerable. From Matthew's Gospel: Whatever you did for the least of these, you did it for me. When we feed the hungry, take care of the sick, and welcome the stranger, we are also serving Jesus himself. We appreciate your donation and will take special care to use it wisely in providing essential programs and services to people in need throughout all eight counties of the Diocese of Cleveland. We invite you to view stories and more information at Catholic-Community.org/support/catholic-charities

JANUARY 25, 2026 OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

Contributions/donations received from the mail, and the January 25, 2026 Offertory Collection will be published in next week's bulletin. **Thank you all for your generosity!**

Annual Contribution Statements

2025 Annual Contribution Statements are available. Statements can be mailed via U.S. regular mail, or if you prefer, sent by email. Please call the parish office or send an email to ststephendh@gmail.com to request your statement.



The Tower Lights are being illuminated during the month of February

In Memory Of

† Thomas Hayne

† Creighton R. Hayne

Please remember them in your prayers

Treasures and Traditions

Candlemas (February 2)

Thanks to Pope Sergius I (687–701), on February 2 we celebrate the Presentation of the Lord. On this day we also commemorate the Purification of Mary, who complied with the Jewish law (Leviticus 12:1). The law indicated that a mother should be purified forty days after giving birth to a boy child. Since the eleventh century, the Purification of Mary and the Presentation of the Lord have been celebrated with the blessing of all the candles and candlesticks that are going to be used during the year. This is done with the hope that there will never be a lack of light, either material or spiritual, in the houses of the faithful. The root of the word *candlemas* is the Latin verb *candere* ("to shine") and from which also come the words candelabra and candlestick. This feast of candles recalls that Christians can, like Simon and the prophetess Anna in the temple, say that they also have seen salvation: Jesus the true Light who shines in the arms of Mary (Luke 2:25–38). -Friar Gilberto Cavazos-González, OFM

In the older missal, on two occasions during today's Mass the faithful would light their candles and hold them, at the Gospel and during the Canon until Communion. For in the Gospel and during the Canon, Christ is present in a special way. It is the reason why at a High Mass lighted candles and burning incense are introduced. The message which the Church wishes to tell you is this: Actually, you ought to hold burning candles in your hands at every Mass; ordinarily, however, acolytes perform that function in your stead. This feast, however, the lay people had an opportunity to exercise the office of universal or lay priesthood — Excerpted from *The Church's Year of Grace*, by Pius Parsch

MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES WEEK OF FEBRUARY 1, 2025

Sun, Feb 1	Schola Practice (CR) 8:00am
	German Social (CR) after 11:00am Mass
Thurs, Feb 5	RCIA/OCIA (SFR) 6:30pm
Sat, Feb 7	Latin Lecture (CR) after 9:30am 1st Sat Mass

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

➔Monday, February 2nd, The Feast of the Purification/The Presentation of our Lord (also known as Candlemas):

A Sung Latin Mass will be celebrated at **6:30pm** for The Feast of the Purification/The Presentation of our Lord. If you wish to have candles blessed, please bring them before the 6:30pm Mass. The Blessing of candles will begin promptly at 6:30pm followed by a procession.

➔Tuesday, February 3rd, The Feast of St. Blaise:

Throats will be blessed at the **6:45am Latin Mass** and at the **6:30pm English Mass**.

ST. STEPHEN CHURCH

1930 W. 54th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44102

(216) 631-5633 www.ststephencleveland.org

LENTEN FISH FRY

The Fish Fry serves in the School Cafeteria, **1911 W. 57th St.**
Enter through the Church Parking Lot off of W. 57th St.

Eat in or Takeout available on ALL Dinners and A La Carte Orders

Dinners

Price

Breaded Fried or Baked Fish Dinner (2 Pieces)	\$14.00
Half-Order Fish Dinner (1 Piece)	\$11.00
Breaded Fried Shrimp Dinner (8 Pieces)	\$16.00
Combination Dinner (1 Fish & 4 Shrimp <i>or</i> 3 Pierogi)	\$15.00
Pierogi Dinner (6 Pierogi)	\$14.00

All Dinners include:

- Coleslaw or Applesauce - Roll & Butter - Dessert
- Choice of 2: French Fries, Mac & Cheese, Cabbage & Noodles, or 2 Pierogi

A La Carte (Side) Orders

Coleslaw	\$ 1.00	French Fries	\$ 2.00
Applesauce	\$ 1.00	Fish (1 Piece)	\$ 3.00
Shrimp (1 Piece)	\$ 1.00	Mac & Cheese	\$ 2.00
Dessert	\$ 2.00	Roll & Butter	\$ 1.00
Homemade Cabbage & Noodles			\$ 2.00
Homemade Pierogi (Sauerkraut <i>or</i> Potato) 2 pieces			\$ 3.00
Pop (can) or Water (bottle)			\$ 1.00
Coffee or Tea			FREE

SERVING EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT 4:30 – 7:00 PM
EXCEPT GOOD FRIDAY

Parish Announcements

St. Vincent de Paul Ministry

We strive to live the Gospel message by serving people in poverty with love, respect, and dignity, providing person-to-person help like food, housing, and clothing, while growing in holiness and building a more just world through charity and justice. During the calendar year 2025, St. Stephen's SVDP made contact with 66 people through our hotline and walk-ins. We helped 6 people with their rent and 7 people with their utility bills. We helped one young family to procure an auto part and one woman to get a refrigerator. We also helped a disabled woman get a mattress for her hospital bed. All this was made possible by your generous donations. Thank you all!

BURNING OF PALMS ON ASH WEDNESDAY Lent begins on Wednesday, February 18th

Now is the time to bring last year's dried palms back to the Church so that they may be burned in preparation for Ash Wednesday.



We invite everyone to bring last year's palms and place them in the box by the table in the back of the Church. Thank you!



BELL TOWER LIGHTING

Each month our St. Stephen Bell Tower is illuminated throughout the night, and can be clearly seen throughout the neighborhood and when driving down I-90 Westbound. If you wish to reserve the bell tower illumination, please contact the Parish Office.

In 2026, the months of March, July, August, September, October, November and December are still open. Thank you for your generosity and financial support of our beloved Saint Stephen Parish.

Latin Mass Socials

Help is needed at the Latin Mass Coffee and Donut Socials on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. These Socials are a great opportunity to get to know your parish community — a chance to mingle, catch up with friends, and make new friends! The Socials do require help to make them successful. There are a few ways you can assist:

- Donations are always appreciated and can be made by cash donation or by bringing a donation of a food or drink item—bagels, donuts or dish to share, coffee, juice, silverware, napkins, paper towels, Ziploc bags, etc.

and/or

- Volunteer your time to make coffee, set up tables for food, lay out plates, silverware, napkins, and/or volunteer to clean up afterwards. Without the donation of your time as a volunteer, the 4th Sunday Social may be discontinued.

Please contact the Parish Office at 216-631-5633 or speak to someone at the Social next week!

Holy See Press Office

DECREE OF THE APOSTOLIC PENITENTIARY ON THE OCCASION OF THE EIGHTH CENTENARY OF THE DEATH OF SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI, BY WHICH A SPECIAL JUBILEE YEAR IS PROCLAIMED, WITH ASSOCIATED PLENARY INDULGENCES , 16.01.2026

... His Holiness Pope Leo XIV, Minister of our faith and our joy, establishes that, from 10 January 2026, coinciding with the closing of the Ordinary Jubilee, until 10 January 2027, a special Year of Saint Francis shall be proclaimed, in which every faithful Christian, following the example of the Saint of Assisi, shall become a model of holiness of life and a constant witness of peace.

For a more perfect achievement of the intended aims, the Apostolic Penitentiary, through this Decree issued in accordance with the will of the Supreme Pontiff, on the occasion of the Year of Saint Francis, grants a plenary indulgence under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer according to the intentions of the Holy Father), also applicable in the form of suffrage for the souls in Purgatory:

... to members: of the Franciscan Families of the First, Second and Third Orders Regular and Secular; of Institutes of Consecrated Life, Societies of Apostolic Life and public or private associations of the faithful, male and female, who observe the Rule of Saint Francis or are inspired by his spirituality or perpetuate his charism in any form; to all the faithful without distinction who, with a heart detached from sin, participate in the Year of Saint Francis by visiting, in the form of a pilgrimage, any Franciscan conventual church or place of worship anywhere in the world dedicated to Saint Francis or connected to him for any reason, and there devoutly follow the Jubilee rites or spend at least a reasonable period of time in pious meditation and raise prayers to God so that, following the example of Saint Francis, feelings of Christian charity towards their neighbours and authentic vows of harmony and peace among peoples may spring forth in their hearts, concluding with the Our Father, the Creed and invocations to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Francis of Assisi, Saint Clare and all the Saints of the Franciscan Family.

The elderly, the sick and those who take care of them, and all those who are unable to leave their homes for serious reasons may also obtain a Plenary Indulgence, provided they detach themselves from any sin and intend to fulfil the three usual conditions as soon as possible, if they unite themselves spiritually to the jubilee celebrations of the Year of Saint Francis, offering to the Merciful God their prayers, the pains or sufferings of their lives.

In order that this opportunity to obtain divine grace through the Power of the Keys of the Church may be more easily realised, this Penitentiary firmly requests all priests, regular and secular, who have the appropriate faculties, to make themselves available, with a ready, generous and merciful spirit, for the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

This decree is valid for the Year of Saint Francis, notwithstanding any provision to the contrary.

Given in Rome, from the seat of the Apostolic Penitentiary, on 10 January 2026, the eve of the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord...

To read the entire article: <https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2026/01/16/260116c.html>

Parish Community Advertisements

Thinking about buying or selling?

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Contact us for all your real estate needs

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

Rick Salvatore
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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

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