



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

Fifth Sunday of Lent — March 21 and 22, 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, O.S.B.

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:

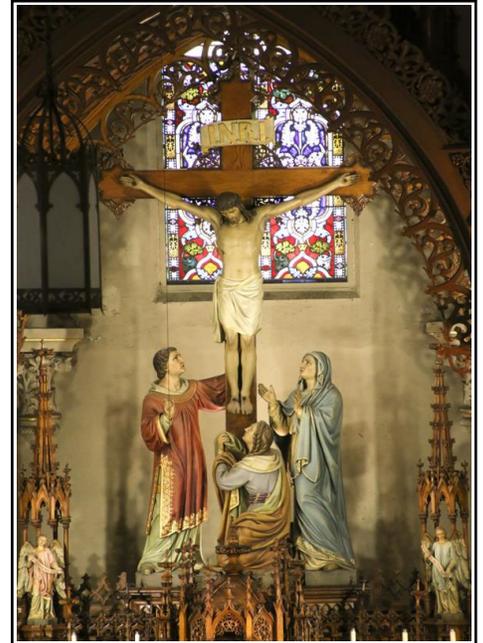
Maureen Easley

Metro Catholic Parish School

1910 West 54th Street
216-281-4044

Sisters of Notre Dame Convent

1891 West 57th Street
216-631-0754



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

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, March 21, 2026—Church

Vigil of the Fifth Sunday of Lent

5:00 PM † Tari Ramsey

Sunday, March 22, 2026—Church

Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM † Louis Bonoan

11:00 AM †† Angelo and Irene Salvatore

Monday, March 23, 2026—Rectory Chapel

Lenten Weekday

6:30 PM † Patricia Apple

Tuesday, March 24, 2026

Lenten Weekday

6:45 AM Latin Mass (Church) † Lt. Col. Ben Gratzler

6:30 PM (Rectory Chapel) Kim Piliero

Wednesday, March 25, 2026—Church

The Annunciation of the Lord

6:30 PM Latin — Mark Decapite

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

Thursday, March 26, 2026—Church

Lenten Weekday

6:30 PM Latin Mass — †† Robert and Coletta Spuhler

Friday, March 27, 2026—Church

Lenten Weekday

5:00 PM Gloria Mushinski

5:30 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 28, 2026—Church

Vigil of Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

5:00 PM † Mary Pearce Renner

Sunday, March 29, 2026—Church

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

8:00 AM James Cables

11:00 AM Dianna Hosta

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



CELEBRANT & LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 21, 2026 — MARCH 22, 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	Sarah Elena
EM:	Jean Gandee		Dianna Hosta
Acolyte:	Ben Kost		Ralph Capistrano

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD MARCH 28, 2026 — MARCH 29, 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	Elaine Ann Cara	Diana Lipfird
EM:	Jean Gandee		Dianna Hosta
Acolyte:	Ben Kost		Ralph Capistrano

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 22, 2025

Sunday:	Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45
Monday:	Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/ Jn 8:1-11
Tuesday:	Nm 21:4-9/Jn 8:21-30
Wednesday:	Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
Thursday:	Gn 17:3-9/Jn 8:51-59
Friday:	Jer 20:10-13/Jn 10:31-42
Saturday:	Ez 37:21-28/Jn 11:45-56

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Ray Ardire	Anthony J. House	Kazuyuki Nagashima
Doris Bealis	Jim	Jessie Noelker
Berly Blankenship	Kiki Kelley	Tom O'Donnell
Janina Bruozis	Kai Kirk	Maria Papp
Thomas John Cables	Joe Kolecki	Christopher A. Park
Ruth Casto	Katharina Kosmalski	Paul
Julio Castro	Kosmerl Family	Greg Ray and Family
Rosemary Diemer	Karen Kranstueber	Herb Rielinger
Martin Eland	Fr. Kropac	Herb Rodriguez
Karen Fisher	Sr. Jane Lab	Rick Salvatore
Kyoko Fry	Sr. Linda	Irene Schroeder
Harry Tom Graef	Ruth Martin	Maureen Sciarriano
Susan Hatta	Maureen Masterson	Jan Sheats
Tadaaki Hatta	Chuck Matias	Michael Sherman
Raymond Hawley	Katie McClain	Glenn Sneed
Katharina Hayne	Rob McClain	Sharon Sneed
Barb Helon	Rita McDonald	† Evelyn Trucks
Debi Hess	Steve McElroy	Fr. Albert Veigas
Agnes Hogan	Victoria Miller	E. K. Wade
Horie Family	Mother and Daughter	Noel Walters
Dianna Hosta	in Crisis	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

Fifth Sunday of Lent — March 21 and 22, 2026

REFLECTION

This Sunday's Gospel touches the most profound of two mysteries, the mystery of life and death. To hold a new born baby or to see the sick restored to health is to experience the astonishment of life. What is bizarre though is to see Jesus crying at the death of His friend Lazarus! It's a responsibility that calls each one of us to look around us and see what makes God weep. Besides, see what makes not only God, but us weep. Then we look at the enormous task of turning this world into the world that loves and cares, the world at peace, the world that is touched by Jesus who weeps for Lazarus and every Lazarus that has been ever born in this life. For it is in the weeping of Jesus — He does not weep over Himself, He weeps over us, that we might eventually bring this world and bring each other to the world that it was created for: the world of forgiveness and caring, not of course without its problems, but the world based on love, concern and care for each other.

~ Fr. Caroli Shao, A.J.

The Fifth Sunday of Lent March 22, 2026

He cried out in a loud voice,
"Lazarus, come out!"



Thank You for Helping to Provide Easter Meals

Thanks to the generosity of St. Stephen parish and parishes throughout the Diocese, Catholic Charities continues to bring hope and nourishment to families in need. Through the Community Holiday Meal outreach, individuals and families can gather for a warm meal or receive a take-home meal from a nearby distribution site this Easter season. Your support of the Catholic Charities Appeal helps make these moments of care, dignity, and community possible. To learn more about the impact of your gift, visit www.catholiccommunity.org



MARCH 15, 2026

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

General Collection	\$1,019.00
Building Fund.....	\$20.00
Candles	\$78.00
Ecclesia Nostra	\$3,340.12
Fish Fry	\$2,052.00
Utilities	\$20.00
Diocesan: Catholic Relief Services	\$152.00
Diocesan: Central/Eastern Europe	\$1.00

Thank you all for your generosity!

MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES WEEK OF MARCH 22, 2026

Sun, Mar 22	Schola Practice (CR)	8:00am
	Latin Social (CR)	after 9:30am Mass
Thurs, Mar 26	RCIA/OCIA (SFR)	6:30pm
Fri, Mar 27	Fish Fry (School Cafeteria)	4:30-7:00pm
	English Mass (C).....	5:00pm
	Stations of the Cross (C)	5:30pm

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



The Tower Lights are being illuminated
during the month of March
In Memory Of
† **Herbert Mausser**
1927 – 2016

Please remember him in your prayers!

Treasures and Traditions

PASSION SUNDAY OR SUNDAY IN MEDIANA

The liturgical cycle of the Passion begins with the Mass at the Vatican, where Nero crucified the first Vicar of Christ and where Symmachus had built an oratory named *Sancta Hierusalem*, as the Sessorian Basilica was originally called, in honor of the triumphant Standard of Redemption.

The Mass of this Sunday is entirely dominated by the memory of the Sacrifice on Golgotha, and is one of the most beautiful and pathetic in the whole Roman Antiphony. During the fortnight, the early *Ordines Romani* forbid the final doxology. In today's Mass the *Judica me* is sung at the Introit, and is therefore omitted previous to the Confession before the priest goes up to the altar.

The communion verse (1 Cor. 11 24-25) expresses the union of the daily sacrifice with the Passion of our Lord. The liturgical celebration of the Passion begins today; the words of St. Paul (as adapted by the Church) emphasize the commemoration of the sufferings and death of Christ in every reception of Holy Communion. The whole Christian life (as St. Ambrose remarked) is linked through its sufferings, austerities, self-denials and sacrifices, with the one only sacrifice of Jesus Christ. The whole work of salvation is the continuation and completion of the mystery of our Saviour's death and resurrection. His sacrifice sanctifies and consecrates all our sacrifices and makes of them one offering before God.-- The New Missal, Rev. F. X. Lasance

THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD—MARCH 25TH

This Feast, which is now kept not only throughout the whole of Spain, but in almost all the Churches of the Catholic world, owes its origin to the Bishops of the 10th Council of Toledo, in 656.

These Prelates having thought that there was an incongruity in the ancient practice of celebrating the feast of the Annunciation on the 25th of March, inasmuch as this joy solemnity frequently occurs at the time when the Church is intent upon the Passion of our Lord, and is sometimes obliged to be transferred into Easter Time, with which it is out of harmony for another reason—they decreed that, henceforth, in the Church of Spain there should be kept, eight days before Christ, a solemn Feast with an Octave, in honor of the Annunciation, and as a preparation for the great solemnity of our Lord's Nativity. In course of time, however, the Church of Spain saw the necessity of returning to the practice of the Church of Rome, and of those of the whole world, which solemnize the 25th of March as the day of our Lady's Annunciation and the Incarnation of the Son of God.... The Liturgical Year by Dom Prosper Guéranger

Parish Announcements

PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION

The solemn procession will begin at 9:15 am before the 9:30 am Palm Sunday Mass.



Pierogi Fundraiser

A big "Thank You" to everyone who ordered from our **Sixth Annual Lenten Pierogi Fundraiser**.

A total of 83 dozen Pierogies were ordered. With your help, we raised **\$337.00**. That's a lot of "dough!"

God bless you for making this fundraiser a success!



Holy Thursday

St. Stephen Church will celebrate **Holy Thursday Mass at 7:00pm on April 2nd** and will remain open from **8:00pm until 12:00 Midnight** for everyone to worship the Holy Eucharist at Blessed Mother's Altar.

As part of the **Holy Thursday Liturgy**, the feet of twelve of our parishioners are washed by the clergy in imitation of Our Lord's action at the Last Supper with his disciples. If you wish to be part of this ceremony on Holy Thursday and have your feet washed, please call the Parish Office at 216-631-5633.

HOLY NIGHT HIKE

The Diocese has asked many churches throughout the Diocese to remain open on **Holy Thursday** until 11:00pm for people to come and worship the Eucharist at their altar of reposition.



Seven (7) of these churches are within walking distance of each other and we are encouraging young adults to walk together and visit these seven churches on Holy Thursday evening.

We'd like to get 1000 young adults to participate that night! You Don't Have to be Catholic, a practicing Catholic, or even believe in God to participate. Join us.

You can start the pilgrimage at any of these churches:

- ➔ St. John Cantius, 906 College Ave.
- ➔ St. Wendelin, 2281 Columbus Road
- ➔ St. Emeric, 1860 W. 22nd St.
- ➔ St. Malachi, 2459 Washington Ave.
- ➔ St. Augustine, 2486 W. 14th St.
- ➔ St. Andrew Kim, 2310 W. 14th St.
- ➔ St. Patrick, 3602 Bridge Ave.
- ➔ In addition, Saint Ignatius High School's St. Mary of the Assumption Chapel will also be open for adoration.

Follow our hashtag and post your pictures at #HolyNightHike on social media. To see more events listed at the Diocese of Cleveland, go to <https://www.dioceseofcleveland.org/events>

March 31st Chrism Mass live-stream found at <https://www.dioceseofcleveland.org/offices/communications/mass>

St. Stephen 3rd Annual Plant Sale

St. Stephen's 3rd Annual Flower Sale

With spring just around the corner, you may be planning your vegetable garden, flower beds or planter boxes. This year you can beautify your yard and support St. Stephen at the same time. We will be selling Annuals (in flats and 4in. Pots), hanging baskets and vegetable plants. See attached order form.

Order Deadline

Thursday April 16, 2025

Order Pick up Information

Wednesday, May 13th 2:30 - 7:30
5599 Columbia Rd.
North Olmsted, Ohio 44070
440-590-2423

QUESTIONS ????

Email Gail: ststephendh@gmail.com



OR

DEAN'S GREENHOUSE IS OFFERING AN IN-STORE/WALK-IN SALE

May 1st, 2026, through June 25th, 2026

If you prefer to pick out your own flowers and garden supplies, you can also go directly to:

Dean's Greenhouse
3984 Porter Rd.
Westlake, Ohio 44145

Mention St. Stephen Church when you check out and St. Stephen will receive a percentage of your sale.

Diocesan Week of Service

"Jesus' teaching on the primacy of love for God is clearly complemented by his insistence that one cannot love God without extending one's love to the poor. Love for our neighbor is tangible proof of the authenticity of our love for God, as the Apostle John attests: 'No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us...God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them' (1 Jn 4:12,16). The two loves are distinct yet inseparable (Dilexi Te 26)."

This Week of Service (March 22-28, 2026) is an opportunity for parishes, schools, Catholic Charities programs, and community members to come together to serve others across Northeast Ohio. Our goal is to create volunteer opportunities that reflect Catholic social teaching and strengthen communities.

CHRISM MASS AT ST. SEBASTIAN PARISH IN AKRON MARCH 31ST AT 5:00 PM

This year's Chrism Mass will be celebrated at St. Sebastian Parish in Akron on Tuesday of Holy Week, **March 31 at 5:00pm**. At this special liturgy, all the holy oils that will be used in our diocese for the coming year will be blessed and consecrated. This is also an opportunity for Priests of the diocese to renew themselves in their priestly vocation. Please be advised that, in an effort to be fair and non-partisan, general seating for the Chrism Mass will be first come, first served; saving of seats for others not present will not be allowed. Doors will open at 4:00pm. Holy Oils may be collected after the Mass. The distribution process will be similar to past years.

2026 Lenten Season

2026 ST. STEPHEN LENTEN FISH FRY

The **LAST** Fish Fry of the Season will be in full swing from 4:30pm — 7:00pm on March 27th with all of your favorites from the past. The menu is located on the back table in the Church and is listed at ststephencleveland.org. Enjoy one last good meal with good company!

Meals will be served in the school cafeteria in the building just south of 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.

Here is your last opportunity to get involved:

- Volunteer a few hours of your time to help make the Fish Fry a big success! On-site helpers are welcome any time between 2:30 and 7:30pm on Friday. Call or text Herb at (216) 402-7437 for more information.
- 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, or bring your donation when you come to the Fish Fry!



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.

Pro-Life

CCO Testifies in Opposition of SB 323, Natural Organic Reduction

The Catholic Conference of Ohio testified in opposition of Senate Bill 323 (R-Blessing), which would legalize the composting of human remains for use as a fertilizer-like substance. "Respect for the dignity of the human person is a foundational principle of civilized society and remains essential even after death. ... When the bodies of the deceased are treated as other disposable objects, we risk contributing to what Pope Francis has described as a "throwaway culture," fostering a broader indifference toward human life," testified CCO. The testimony also noted, "Ohio already provides meaningful and morally sound alternatives consistent with ecological stewardship and respect for the person. Many Catholic and other cemeteries throughout the state offer natural or green burial areas that gently return the body to the earth without chemicals, burial vaults, or non-biodegradable materials." To read the full testimony, go to: www.ohiocathconf.org

LENT AND EASTER SCHEDULE

- March 27** 5:00 PM English Mass
5:30 PM Stations of the Cross
- March 29 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**
8:00 AM English Mass
9:15 AM Procession — *No Confessions*
11:00 AM English Mass
- April 1 Wednesday in Holy Week**
6:30 PM Latin Mass
Tenebrae to follow
- April 2 Holy Thursday of the Lord's Supper**
7:00 PM English Mass
(Adoration until Midnight)
- April 3 Good Friday**
2:00 PM Stations of the Cross
3:00 PM Passion of our Lord
- April 4 Holy Saturday**
8:30 PM English Mass
- April 5 Easter Sunday**
Cancelled 8:00 AM Mass
No Confessions
9:30 AM Latin Mass
11:00 AM English Mass



CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES (CRS) RICE BOWL

Each Lent, Catholic families across the country unite to put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Through CRS Rice Bowl, families learn about how our sisters and brothers across the globe overcome hardships like hunger and malnutrition. CRS Rice Bowl is one way Catholics can enhance their Lenten fasting practice by giving up meals and donating the cost of those meals to Catholic Relief Services in order to help those who do not have enough to eat. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl today from the table in the back of the church, and begin engaging your family in the daily pillars of Lent: Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving.

Visit csrcricebowl.org for more information



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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brookparksalvatore@gmail.com



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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
Ursuline Sisters (Pepper Pike/Mayfield) 440-449-1200, ext. 103

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