



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

Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) — April 11 and 12, 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:

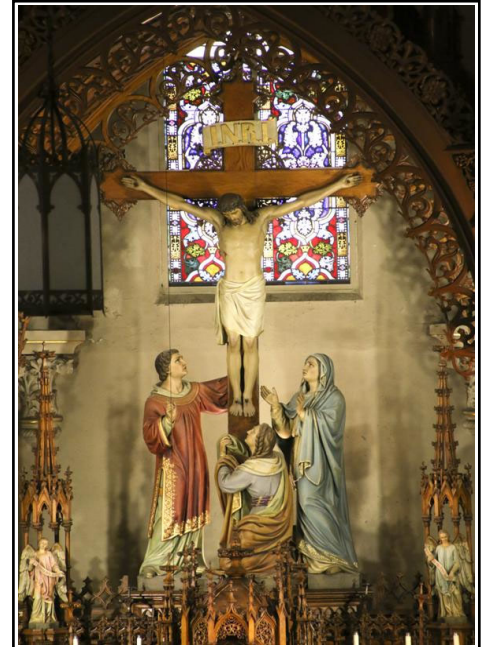
Maureen Easley

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, April 11, 2026—Church

Vigil of Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)

5:00 PM † Carole Caruso

Sunday, April 12, 2026—Church

Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)

8:00 AM Evelyn Cowan

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

3:00 PM Divine Mercy Celebration

Monday, April 13, 2026—Rectory Chapel

Easter Weekday

6:30 PM † Joe Walter

Tuesday, April 14, 2026

Easter Weekday

6:45 AM Latin Mass (Church) †† Robert and Coletta Spuhler

6:30 PM (Rectory Chapel) Kathy Kness

Wednesday, April 15, 2026—Church

Easter Weekday

6:30 PM Marco Ramirez

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

Thursday, April 16, 2026—Church

Easter Weekday

6:30 PM Holy Souls in Purgatory

Friday, April 17, 2026—Church

Easter Weekday

6:30 PM Thomas J. Cables

Saturday, April 18, 2026—Church

Vigil of the Third Sunday of Easter

5:00 PM † Martin Morisky

Sunday, April 19, 2026—Church

Third Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM † Thomas Hayne

11:00 AM † Carolyn Salvatore

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



CELEBRANT & LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY) APRIL 11, 2026—APRIL 12, 2026

	<u>5:00PM MASS</u>	<u>8:00AM MASS</u>	<u>11:00AM MASS</u>
Celebrant:	Fr. Benjamin	Fr. Benjamin	Fr. Benjamin
Lector:	John Maier	Doris Peters	Jerry Nowesnick
EM:	Jean Gandee		Dianna Hosta/ Diana Lipfird
Acolyte:	Ben Kost		Ralph Capistrano

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 18, 2026—APRIL 19, 2026

	<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	Diana Lipfird	Matt Minarik
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 APRIL 12, 2025

Sunday:	Acts 2:42-47/1 Pt 1:3-9/Jn 20:19-31
Monday:	Acts 4:23-31/Jn 3:1-8
Tuesday:	Acts 4:32-37/Jn 3:7b-15
Wednesday:	Acts 5:17-26/Jn 3:16-21
Thursday:	Acts 5:27-33/Jn 3:31-36
Friday:	Acts 5:34-42/Jn 6:1-15
Saturday:	Acts 6:1-7/Jn 6:16-21

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

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

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

Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) — April 11 and 12, 2026

REFLECTION

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday on which the Church celebrates the Mercy of God to humanity in Christ. The Passion, death and Resurrection of Christ brought reconciliation with God and His people. By His Sacrificial Love, Christ destroyed all forms of enmity and established the Kingdom of love, joy and peace. In His remarkable appearance to the Apostles, He declared a universal peace in His greeting, "Peace be with you." The Mercy of God removed fears, guiltiness, and doubts in the life of Peter, Thomas and the companions. They were called to believe and trust in the presence of their Master. Thomas, in his encounter with the Risen Lord, refused to touch the flesh of Jesus, but decided to touch His Divinity by faith, as he confessed "My Lord and My God." Jesus is truly present in our lives, families, Churches and knows our problems and pains. He strongly desires everybody to touch Him by faith to unlock abundant graces. The Lord gave the Holy Spirit to the Apostles and the entire members of the Church to preach and live the joy of Resurrection beginning on earth, regardless of the hardships of the time.

~ Fr. Benjamin Koka, A.J.



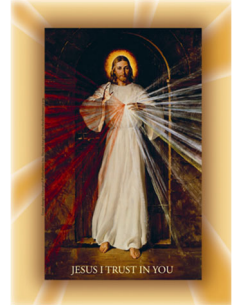
The Tower Lights are being illuminated during the month of April
In Honor Of
Linda Hess

Please remember her in your prayers!

TODAY IS DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY!

Parishioners and Friends of St. Stephen, we invite you to join us for the Holy Hour to the Divine Mercy, today, at 3:00pm in the Church!

Did you know that the Lord said that this feast would one day be the "last hope of salvation?" Saint John Paul II named the Second Sunday of Easter "Sunday of Divine Mercy" in response to Saint Faustina Kowalska's Divine Mercy devotion, which offered spiritual comfort to hearts worldwide. The necessary condition for living joyfully? We must let go of anger, hatred, revenge, and violence. A tall order in a world seemingly bent on the destruction of every peaceful impulse. May Divine Mercy Sunday remind us that Jesus made mercy our life's ideal and a criterion for our faith's credibility: "Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy." (Matthew 5:7)



Pro-Life

On Good Friday, when we observe our Lord's Passion and Crucifixion, we remember how He bore our sins and the sins of the whole world as He suffered on our behalf. A week after celebrating His Resurrection, we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, remembering the message He so ardently instructed Saint Faustina to spread: His endless mercy and forgiveness. God longs for us to return to Him and to allow His mercy to wash away the muddiness of our sins. He has a prepared place in His merciful heart for each of us, and no sin is bigger than His power to forgive. He desires all of us to come to Him just as we are and receive healing through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The words Christ revealed to St. Faustina, He also speaks to us: "Lay your head on my shoulder, rest and regain your strength. I am always with you" (Diary, no. 848).

Acts of Reparation (choose one)

- ◆ Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 3:00 pm (the Hour of Mercy), with the intention of healing for all suffering from involvement in abortion. How to pray: www.usccb.org/divine-mercy-chaplet
- ◆ Jesus spoke to St. Faustina, "Reveal all the wounds of your heart. I will heal them" (Diary, no. 1487). Expose the cuts and wounds of your heart to Christ in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and allow His healing mercy to reach every hurt and hidden pain.
- ◆ Offer some other sacrifice, prayer, or act of penance that you feel called to do for this month's intention.

Intention: May all who fear confessing involvement in abortion be assured of Christ's mercy.

APRIL 5, 2026

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

General Collection	\$368.00
General Collection Easter	\$5,517.00
Children	\$7.00
Building Fund.....	\$120.00
Candles	\$142.00
Ecclesia Nostra	\$8,347.26
Food Pantry	\$160.00
General Donation	\$134.00
Holy Land Collection—Good Friday.....	\$354.00
Holy Thursday.....	\$546.00
Utilities	\$35.00

Thank you all for your generosity!

MARCH 2026

ONLINE CONTRIBUTIONS

Easter Sunday Collection	\$100.00
Ecclesia Nostra	\$1,857.00
General Donation	\$350.00
Music Ministry.....	\$200.00
Offertory Donations	\$200.00
St. Vincent de Paul Ministry	\$50.00

Thank you all for your generosity!

MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES WEEK OF APRIL 12, 2025

Sun, April 12	Schola Practice (CR).....	8:00am
	Latin Social (CR)	after 9:30am
	Mass Baptism (C)	after 11:00am
	Divine Mercy Celebration (C)	3:00pm
Mon, April 13	Parish Council (CR)	7:00pm
	(C) Church • (CR) Club Room • (SFR) St Francis Room • (R) Rectory	

Parish Announcements



He is risen! Alleluia! Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped decorate the Church for the celebration of Easter! The empty chair next to Gail Schmidt is for † Maryanne Sutherland (*in spirit*) who decorated the Church for many, many years and to whom we hold dear in our hearts.

Congratulations to our Candidates who completed their call to full initiation in the Roman Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil! Please pray for them as they continue to deepen their lives of faith in Jesus.



Candidates: Rachael Shucofsky-Popa, Fr. Caroli Shao, Dakota Senvisky



(left to right) Victoria Shucofsky-Popa (Sponsor), Rachael Shucofsky-Popa, Fr. Caroli Shao, Dakota Senvisky, Travis Stocker (Sponsor)

2025 Parish Picnic—Save the Date!

Plan to join the fun at our annual parish gathering on **August 9th!** Free food, drinks, games and good fellowship! Take a moment now to put it on your calendar. Hope to see you there!

News from the Pews



CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Dougherty and Joan Donnelly, who were united in the Holy Sacrament of Marriage on Saturday, April 11, 2026!

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Alexander and Elizabeth Rhoades, parents of **Madelyn Louise** who will be welcomed into the One Holy Catholic Church by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism today, April 12, 2026!



CONDOLENCES TO...

James Mazurkewicz, family and friends on the passing of his Sister, **Karen Fisher**, who died on March 27, 2026. A Requiem Mass will be celebrated on **April 25, 2026 at 10:30am** at St. Stephen.

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



St. Stephen Fish Fry

Thank you!

The St. Stephen Fish Fry continues to build the community so important to our parish. Our volunteers (including several OCIA participants/alumni) continue to amaze me with their hard work and good humor. Once again, the cafeteria was packed on most nights with families, groups of friends, and individuals deep in conversation or sometimes just quietly enjoying the fish, shrimp, pierogi, and all of the other good food and drink. Even those who only stopped by for take-out often lingered to chat with our kitchen helpers. These several Lenten Friday evenings showed how St. Stephen Parish can build community, one dinner at a time!

The generosity of our volunteers and all of the patrons of the Fish Fry, the 50/50 Raffle and the Pierogi Sale resulted in a net benefit of over \$5,000 to help sustain our beloved St. Stephen Church. Thank you, thank you!

On behalf of the Parish Pastoral Council, I extend our sincere gratitude to all who made the 2026 Fish Fry such a success, including the volunteers, Father Caroli, Father Ben, and our wonderful Parish staff. We are also deeply grateful to all who attended and supported the Fish Fry each week. Your presence, fellowship, and encouragement made these gatherings not only successful, but meaningful. Let us use this event as another foundation block as we continue to build a Community of Christ at St. Stephen Parish. God bless you all!

~ Herb Mausser, Chairman,
St. Stephen Parish Pastoral Council

Parish Announcements

3rd Annual St. Stephen Flower/Plant 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. Flyers and attached Order Forms can be found at the exits of the Church. **Hurry! The Order deadline is April 16, 2026.**

Flowers will be available for **pickup on Wednesday, May 13th 2:30pm—7:30pm** at 5599 Columbia Rd., North Olmsted, Ohio 44070. If you have any questions, please call Gail at 440-590-2423 or send an email to ststephendh@gmail.com.

Or — Dean's Greenhouse is offering an in-store/walk-in sale — May 1st — 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 we will receive a percentage of your sale.

CRS Rice Bowl

Our CRS Rice Bowl journey has come to an end. **Please convert your change collected to dollars or check**, and drop your donation for the CRS Rice Bowl into a collection basket. Be sure to write "CRS Rice Bowl" in the memo line of your check. You may donate directly online at: crsricebowl.org/give. Thank you for participating!



World Language Week Latin Mass

The 17th Annual St. John Berchmans World Language Week Latin Mass will be celebrated by Rev. Bede Kotlinski, O.S.B. and celebrated by Rev. W. Pierce Gibson, IV S.J. on **Wednesday, April 22nd, 2026 at 7:00am** at Historic St. Stephen Catholic Church, 1930 West 54th St., Cleveland, OH 44102.



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

Music will be directed by Annette Spallone Murphy. Prelude begins at 6:45am.

The World Language Week Latin Mass is an opportunity for local Catholic high school students to worship together and celebrate Latin, the official language of the Catholic Church.

Latin-English Missals will be provided for use during Mass. Rosaries will be distributed and refreshments served following the Mass. All are encouraged and welcome to attend!

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 Community Advertisements

Thinking about buying or selling?



Contact us for all your real estate needs



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

Rick Salvatore
216-319-6553
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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