



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

Third Sunday of Easter — April 18 and 19, 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:

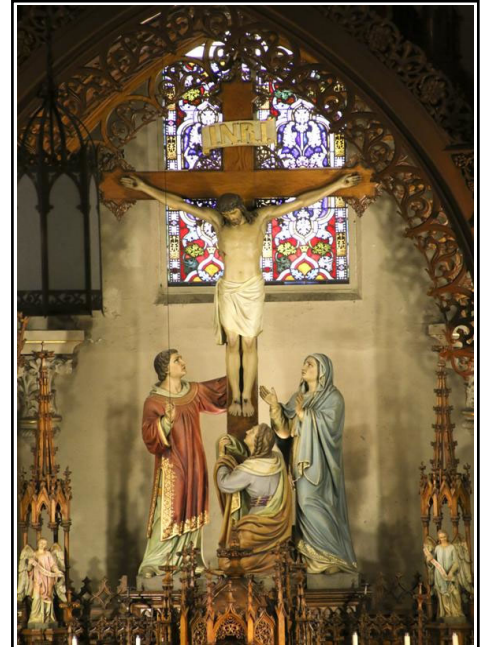
Maureen Easley

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.

ALL WEEKDAY MASSES ARE NOW CELEBRATED IN THE CHURCH

Saturday, April 18, 2026

Vigil of the Third Sunday of Easter

5:00 PM Edna Deffler

Sunday, April 19, 2026

Third Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM † Thomas Hayne

11:00 AM † Carolyn Salvatore

Monday, April 20, 2026

Easter Weekday

6:30 PM † Ray Banner

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

Easter Weekday

6:45 AM Latin Mass — † William O'Reilly

6:30 PM † Mark Titus

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

Easter Weekday

7:00 AM St. John Berchmans Altar Servers Ministry

6:30 PM Timothy Cables

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

Thursday, April 23, 2026

Easter Weekday

6:30 PM Emily Cowan

Friday, April 24, 2026

Easter Weekday

6:30 PM Felix Stracensky

Saturday, April 25, 2026

Vigil of the Fourth Sunday of Easter

5:00 PM † Russell Kamps

Sunday, April 26, 2026

Fourth Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM † Elizabeth O'Reilly

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

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 25, 2026 — APRIL 26, 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	Sarah Halko
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 19, 2025

Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/1 Pt 1:17-21/Lk 24:13-35
 Monday: Acts 6:8-15/Jn 6:22-29
 Tuesday: Acts 7:51—8:1a/Jn 6:30-35
 Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8/Jn 6:35-40
 Thursday: Acts 8:26-40/Jn 6:44-51
 Friday: Acts 9:1-20/Jn 6:52-59
 Saturday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14/Mk 16:15-20

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	

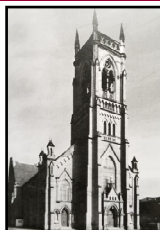
Brother Kevin Cush—Vocation to Priesthood and Religious Life
 Sean Homcy—Vocation to Priesthood
 Abbé Nicholas Johanni—Vocation to Priesthood
 Sister Rose-Marie (Rose Johanni) of the Passion of the Royal Heart,
 Burning Furnace of Mercy
 First Responder—Lt. Timothy Maffo-Judd

Third Sunday of Easter — April 18 and 19, 2026

REFLECTION

We, the contemporary believers, may not be so much different from those disciples walking along the road to Emmaus, concerned over the events in our lives. What brought them to recognize Jesus was “the breaking of the bread.” Their minds were immediately taken back to the Upper Room and the Last Supper, connecting that with the broken and bloody body of Jesus hinging on His cross. Can we learn to recognize Jesus in human brokenness? That’s is the key; that’s what opens our eyes to His presence among us. When we encounter people with broken hearts, Jesus is there. When we encounter someone who is experiencing loss, pain, and suffering, Jesus is there. Isn’t that what Jesus was telling us when He taught us about the judgment we will receive when we die? He will ask us if we recognized Him in human brokenness; “For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you offered me a drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.” (Mt. 25:35 – 36).

~ Fr. Caroli Shao, A.J.



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

Please remember her in your prayers!

Traditions and Treasures

The fifty days between Easter and Pentecost have ever been considered by the Church as most holy. The first week, which is more expressly devoted to celebrating our Lord’s Resurrection, is kept up as one continued Feast; but the remainder of the fifty days is also marked with special honors. To say nothing of the joy, which is the characteristic of this period of the year, and of which the Alleluia is the expression, Christian tradition has assigned to Eastertide two practices, which distinguish it from every other Season. The first is, that fasting is not permitted during the entire interval: it is an extension of the ancient precept of never fasting on a Sunday, and the whole of Eastertide is considered as one long Sunday. This practice, which would seem to have come down from the time of the Apostles, was accepted by the Religious Rules of both East and West, even by the severest. The second consists in not kneeling at the Divine Office, from Easter to Pentecost. The Eastern Churches have faithfully kept up the practice, even to this day. It was observed for many ages by the Western Churches also; but now, it is little more than a remnant. The Latin Church has long since admitted genuflections in the Mass during Easter time. The few vestiges of the ancient discipline in this regard, which still exist, are not noticed by the faithful, inasmuch as they seldom assist at the Canonical Hours.

Eastertide, then, is like one continued feast. This was remarked by Tertullian in the third century. He is reproaching those Christians who regretted having renounced, by their baptism, the festivities of the pagan year, and thus addresses them: 'If you love feasts, you will find plenty among us Christians, not merely feasts that last only for a day, but such as continue for several days together. The pagans keep each of their feasts once in the year; but you have to keep each of yours many times over, for you have the eight days of its celebration. Put all the feasts of the Gentiles together, and they do not amount to our fifty days of Pentecost.' 14 St. Ambrose, speaking on the same subject, says: 'If the Jews are not satisfied with the Sabbath of each week, but keep also one which lasts whole month, and another which lasts a whole year,- how much more ought not we to honour our Lord's Resurrection? Hence our ancestors have taught us to celebrate the fifty days of Pentecost as a continuation of Easter. They are seven weeks, and the feast of Pentecost commences the eighth... . During these fifty days the Church observes no fast, nor does she on any Sunday, for it is the day on which our Lord rose: and all these fifty days are like so many Sundays. — *The Liturgical Year by Dom Prosper Guéranger*

Upcoming Collection

Next week, we will take up the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. Today, nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its current and former territories are unable to fund the essential pastoral work their communities need. Your support for this appeal helps them meet these faith formation and sacramental needs. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this appeal. Find more information at www.usccb.org/home-missions.

APRIL 12, 2026

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

General Collection.....	\$1,178.00
Children	\$3.50
Easter Sunday.....	\$170.00
Building Fund.....	\$65.00
Candles.....	\$95.00
Ecclesia Nostra	\$1,862.62
Food Pantry	\$313.00
General Donation	\$100.00
Holy Land Collection—Good Friday.....	\$5.00
Holy Thursday.....	\$5.00
St. Vincent de Paul Ministry	\$1.00
Utilities	\$10.00

Thank you all for your generosity!

MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES WEEK OF APRIL 19, 2025

Sun, April 19	Schola Practice (CR).....	8:00am
	Baptism (C)	after 11:00am Mass
Tue, April 22	St. Ignatius World Language Mass (C)	6:45am
Fri, April 24	Wedding Rehearsal (C)	4:30pm
Sat, April 25	PSR Confession (CR)	10:00am
	Funeral (C)	10:30am
	Wedding (C).....	1:00pm

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

Parish Announcements

MASS LOCATION CHANGE

All weekday Masses have been moved from the Chapel to the Church starting on Monday, April 20, 2026.

News from the Pews

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Gregory and Rosemary Shuck, parents of **Francis Gregory** who will be welcomed into the One Holy Catholic Church by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism today, April 19, 2026!



CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Mr. and Mrs. Kristopher and Samantha Foicca, who were united in the Holy Sacrament of Marriage on Saturday, April 25, 2026!



3rd Annual St. Stephen Flower/Plant Sale



The order deadline for flowers for pickup was April 16th. If you ordered flowers, they 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 Gail at ststephendh@gmail.com.

If you missed the deadline for ordering flowers, there is still time to have a percentage of the cost of your purchase to be donated to St. Stephen. Please your order in store at **Dean's Greenhouse, 3984 Porter Rd., Westlake, Ohio 44145**. Dean's Greenhouse in-store/walk-in sale runs from **May 1st—June 25th, 2026**. Mention St. Stephen Church when you check out and we will receive a percentage of your sale. **Thank you!**

May 3rd German Mass

The Gottscheer Heimatchor and the STV Bavaria choir will jointly sing the "Katschtaler Messe" on Sunday, **May 3 at 11:00am.**

The Katschtaler Messe (Katsch Valley Mass) is a significant piece of sacred folk music from the Austrian state of Kärnten (Carinthia). Arranged by Hans Pleschberger, it is a "Sängermesse" deeply rooted in local regional culture. Pleschberger was born in the Katschtal in 1942 and began collecting and arranging the traditional spiritual folk songs of the region in the mid-1960s while studying music and history in Vienna. The Katschtaler Messe was published in its standardized form in 1987. Pleschberger became the leader of the Katschtaler Kirchenchor (St. Peter im Katschtal Church Choir) in 1993.



St. John Berchmans Altar Servers Ministry

Latin Mass



Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Mother of the Society of Jesus

World Language Week

Rev. Bede Kotlinski, OSB, Celebrant

Wednesday, April 22, 2026 at 7:00 am

Historic St. Stephen Catholic Church

1930 W. 54th St., Cleveland, OH 44102

The 17th Annual St. John Berchmans World Language Week Latin Mass will be celebrated by Rev. Bede Kotlinski, O.S.B. and concelebrated by Rev. W. Pierce Gibson, IV S.J. on **Wednesday, April 22nd, 2026 at 7:00am** at Historic Saint 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 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!

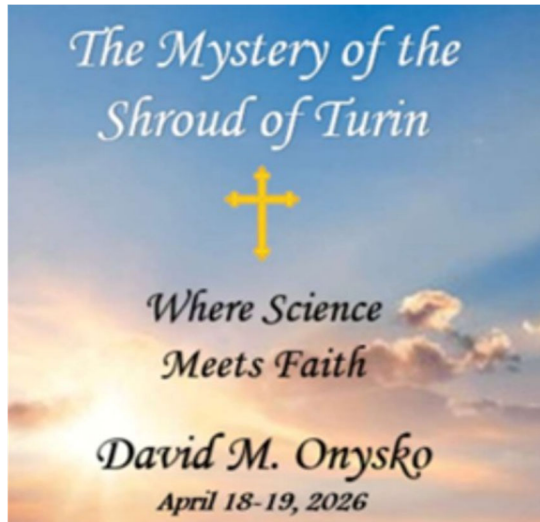
The SJB is inviting Catholic men ages 14-18 interested in learning how to serve the Latin Mass to become new members. Please see Fr. Bede or call the St. Stephen Parish Office at 216.631.5633.

2026 Save the Date!

**St. Stephen Parish Picnic / Upper Edgewater Park Pavilion
Sunday, August 9, 2026: 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

Come join your fellow parishioners for a day of Fun, Food, Games and Celebration at Cleveland's beautiful Edgewater Park Pavilion on **Sunday, August 9, 2026**. Hope to see you there!

Around the Diocese



The Shroud of Turin continues to captivate scientists, historians, and believers alike. Is it an authentic relic of Jesus Christ or an elaborate medieval forgery? Over the decades, countless studies and debates have sought to unravel its secrets. From its intricate weave to the enigmatic image imprinted upon it, the Shroud stands at the crossroads of science and faith.

On Saturday, April 18 and Sunday April 19, we are pleased to welcome renown Sindonologist (Shroud of Turin expert) David Onysko, who will guide us through an extraordinary examination of the Shroud's history, science, and deep theological meaning. The program begins on Saturday, April 18th at 2 pm at St. Sebastian Parish, Zwisler Hall at St. Sebastian, 476 Mull Avenue in Akron. Mr. Onysko will present a 90-minute interactive program, which features a full-sized replica of the Shroud, as well as other artifacts of Roman crucifixion.

The artifacts will remain on display in Zwisler Hall **Saturday evening through Sunday afternoon**. This program is open to all and presented by the St. Sebastian Knights of Columbus.

The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic men's fraternal organization, with more than 2 million members united in faith, service, and brotherhood.

We are seeking Catholic men, age 18 and older, who are ready to live out the timeless virtues of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity—men who want to make a real difference in their parish, their community, and their families. If you've ever felt called to serve, to grow in your faith, and to stand alongside other men committed to doing good, this is your invitation.

To learn more about becoming a Knight, please contact:

Membership Director – Jerry Nowesnick
440-336-0039
nowesnick@gmail.com

Step forward. Make an impact. Join the Knights of Columbus.



In this Easter season, many of us sense a quiet invitation to something more—more space to reflect, more time to pray, or a deeper awareness of how God is at work in our lives. The Jesuit Retreat Center In Parma offers a sacred place to step away for a few days and respond to God's invitation.



Jesuit Retreat Center

An upcoming weekend retreat, Second Half of Life: Transitions (May 1–3), and 5- and 7-night directed retreats later this spring and summer offer space for prayer, reflection, and renewal. All are welcome. Learn more at

<https://www.jesuitretreatcenter.org/calendar>

**BIRDIES FOR BABIES:
TopGolf Edition**

Swing into action for a great cause! The 6th Annual Birdies for Babies is Thursday, April 30 at Topgolf. Enjoy two hours of golf, exciting raffle prizes, and fellowship—all while supporting Zelig's Home and the women and children it serves. Golfers \$100 | Spectators \$50. Sponsorships available. Register at www.zelieshome.org/events or scan the QR code

Summer is right around the corner and with it comes – **The FESFest**. Join us on Saturday, **August 15, 2026** at ForeFront Field (home of the Crushers) in Avon for an inspiring day of faith, family and fun. It's a new location and a new date with all the wonderful things thousands from across our region have come to appreciate and enjoy on FESFest day. Come for the best Contemporary Christian artists, faith-based activities, an area for the kids, meaningful displays and vendors, family-friendly food, along with opportunities for Prayer, Confession, Adoration and more. The FESFest, like always, will conclude with an inspiring outdoor Mass with Bishop Malesic at 8 pm followed by an incredible American Fireworks display. Check out all the details, along with band announcements, and ticket information (\$10 per person and children 2 and under are free). There's plenty of close in parking, and the entire facility is handicap accessible. In its 26th year, The FESFest again promises to be the perfect family day – a highlight of your summer. Please join us. For all the information and a complete schedule of the day, go to: www.theFEST.us



THE FESFEST / AUGUST 15, 2026
AVON, OHIO
FOREFRONT FIELD
WWW.THEFEST.US

Parish Community Advertisements

Thinking about buying or selling?



Contact us for all your real estate needs



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440-785-6800
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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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