



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

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time — October 3 & 4, 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:

Parish Staff

Church Secretary:

Debbie Hemphill

Church Accountant:

Russ Nieling

Maintenance:

Dieudonne Simbi

Organist:

Joe Kolecki

Cantors:

Virginija Muliolis and Teagan Webb

Latin Schola Director:

Nathan Marinchick and Matthew Eccher

St. Vincent de Paul:

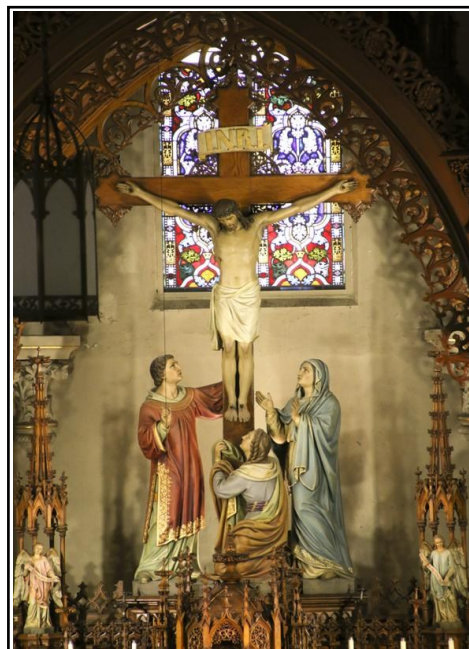
Maureen Easley

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.

Order 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, October 3, 2026

Vigil of the Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 PM Henry Myers

Sunday, October 4, 2026

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM William Kness

11:00 AM German — † Helene Mausser

Monday, October 5, 2026

Weekday

6:30 PM Matthew and Therese Ondich and Family

Tuesday, October 6, 2026

Weekday

6:45 AM William Kness

6:30 PM † Phillip Smith

Wednesday, October 7, 2026

Our Lady of the Rosary

6:30 PM † Evelyn Trucks

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

Thursday, October 8, 2026

Weekday

6:30 PM †† Robert and Coletta Spuhler

Friday, October 9, 2026

Weekday

6:30 PM † Pam Staff

Saturday, October 10, 2026

Vigil of the Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 PM The Strifler Family

Sunday, October 11, 2026

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Aubrey Earle

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

**TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
OCTOBER 3, 2026 — OCTOBER 4, 2026**

	<u>5:00PM MASS</u>	<u>8:00AM MASS</u>	<u>11:00AM MASS</u>
Celebrant:	Fr. Caroli	Fr. Caroli	Fr. Caroli
Lector:	Glenn Sneed	Doris Peters	Ursula Keck / Kevin Young
EM:	Jean Gandee		Diana Lipfird
Acolyte:	Ben Kost		

**TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
OCTOBER 10, 2026 — OCTOBER 11, 2026**

	<u>5:00PM MASS</u>	<u>8:00AM MASS</u>	<u>11:00AM MASS</u>
Celebrant:	Fr. Benjamin	Fr. Januarius	Fr. Caesar
Lector:	Russ Nieling	Chris Haddock	Jerry Nowesnick
EM:	Jean Gandee		Diana Lipfird
Acolyte:	Ben Kost		

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

Sunday: Ez 18:25-28/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32
Monday: Jb 1:6-22/Lk 9:46-50
Tuesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12ab/Jn 1:47-51
Wednesday: Jb 9:1-12, 14-16/Lk 9:57-62
Thursday: Jb 19:21-27/Lk 10:1-12
Friday: Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5 (459)/Mt 18:1-5, 10
Saturday: Eccl 11:9—12:8/Lk 9:43b-45

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Judy Ansbro	Kai Kirk	Christopher A. Park
Ray Ardire	Joe Kolecki	Gloria Parrott
James Bayne	Ann Konieczny	Gino Pascazi
Berly Blankenship	Stephan Kosmalski	Herb Rielinger
Janina Bruozis	Kosmerl Family	Herb Rodriguez
Thomas John Cables	Karen Kranstueber	Rick Salvatore
Rosemary Diemer	Sr. Linda	Jerry Schneider
Martin Eland	Robin Manocchio	Joyce schneider
Kyoko Fry	Ruth Martin	Irene Schroeder
Harry Tom Graef	Chelsea Mason	Maureen Sciarino
Susan Hatta	Maureen Masterson	Jan Sheats
Tadaaki Hatta	Chuck Matias	Michael Sherman
Katharina Hayne	Rita McDonald	Glenn Sneed
Barb Helon	Steve McElroy	Sharon Sneed
Tim Hennessey	Victoria Miller	Spencer Stadnik
Debi Hess	Mother and Daughter	Les Taborosi
Agnes Hogan	in Crisis	E. K. Wade
Horie Family	Kazuyuki Nagashima	Noel Walters
Dianna Hosta	Jessie Noelker	Andrew Wilkolok
Patti Huskey	Tom O'Donnell	Jim Wilkolok
Kiki Kelley	Maria Papp	Devon Zink

Brother Kevin Cush—Vocation to Priesthood and Religious Life

Deacon Sean Homcy—Vocation to Priesthood

Canon 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

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time — October 3 & 4, 2026

REFLECTION

The message of Prophet Isaiah concerning the choicest vineyard tells us that the owner invested a lot of resources to fence, remove stones, add fertilizer into the soil, and dig the vine press. The owner expected the vineyard to produce sweet fruits for a huge annual profit. Bad enough, this very vineyard produced sour grapes. The story of the cherished vineyard can reflect rightly the way how God in love invests in the Chosen People. The Lord expects his followers to care for the sick, poor, strangers, be lovable, peace makers, light of the world, forgiving, honest etc. But many of the believers chose to pour blood, practice corruption, cause division, hate others, destroy human life as stated in today's Gospel, pollute the planet earth and abandon faith practices. Jesus made it clear in the Gospel that God's plan of Salvation is unstoppable. The owner of the vineyard will remove the dishonest, insincere, unfaithful or merciless tenants and allow the good fruits to triumph in the world.

~ Fr. Benjamin Koka, A.J.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a process of instruction to introduce persons seeking initiation into the Roman Catholic Church or adults seeking to be received into full communion of the Catholic Church who have already been validly baptized. **Classes begin on Thursday, October 29th from 6:30pm—8:00pm.** We invite adults who are interested to register by calling the parish office at 216-631-5633.

Blanket Sunday

Beginning the weekend of **Oct. 3-4**, the Society of SVDP is asking for your help. This year is the 40th year of their annual appeal to help neighbors in need. Please consider a monetary donation which will help purchase blankets, beds, and other winter essentials for those in need. All money raised stays in NE Ohio. Please visit BlanketSunday.org for more information. Thank you!

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

Every year, on the first two weekends of October, the ushers count the number of people who attended each Mass. The number counted is sent to the Diocesan Office for parish statistics and vitality of each parish. Please be sure to come and be counted at a Mass next weekend, **October 10-11.**

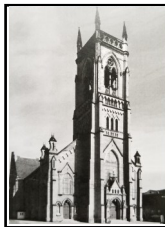
SEPTEMBER 27, 2026 OFFERTORY COLLECTION

General Offertory Collection	\$1,824.00
Children	\$5.25
Building Fund	\$145.00
Candles	\$84.00
Ecclesia Nostra	\$2,023.12
Food Pantry	\$170.00
General Donation	\$10,000.00
General Donation in Memory of	\$297.00
Diocesan: Catholic Communications Campaign ..	\$177.00

Thank you all for your generosity!

MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES WEEK OF OCTOBER 4, 2026

Sun, October 4 Schola Practice (CR) 8:00am
German Social (R) after 11:00am Mass
(C) Church • (CR) Club Room • (SFR) St Francis Room • (R) Rectory



The Tower Lights are being illuminated during the month of October
In Memory Of the
Minor and Lipfird Families

Please remember them in your prayers!

EUCCHARISTIC DEVOTION

We have Eucharistic Devotion on Wednesday Evenings after the 6:30PM Mass.



"Wait 1 Hour With Me"

Words spoken by our Lord in the garden of Gethsemane. (Mt 26:40-41)

Eucharistic Adoration is a time to just "BE" in the presence of the Lord. It extends the union with Christ which we have received in Communion. The most important thing to realize is that you don't have to do anything except spend time in the presence of the Lord. It is in this silence that the Lord speaks to us. We invite you to come pray with us each Wednesday evening, Mass, Confession and Eucharistic Adoration! What a wonderful way to Thank our Lord for all that He does for us.

CONFIRMATION/FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES

Classes for October will be: **October 10th** and **October 24th at 10:30am.** Classes are being held in the Metro School Building, Room 107 and 109. If you want your child to receive the Sacraments, all students including home school students are required to register. Any questions? Please call Diana Lipfird at 440-532-9491 DRE or email at dlipfird@gmail.com.



TODAY! Rocky River Ohio Life Chain

Sunday, October 4, 2026 • 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

21016 Center Ridge Road, Rocky River, OH 44116

Join us on the public sidewalk and pray in front of Planned Parenthood, 21016 Center Ridge Road, Rocky River 44116. Park on the side streets. Do NOT park at Walgreens. Signs provided.

Local contact: Doris Peters 216-659-3362 or email at: DorisRPeters@yahoo.com

17TH ANNUAL SONNHALTER TOOL DRIVE

The parish received a thank you letter:

"Once again, we were overwhelmed by the generosity of everyone who participated. The 2025 Tool Drive brought in \$25,000 in tool and building material donations! To date, we've now collected an incredible \$628,000 worth of tools and supplies for Habitat for Humanity of Greater Cleveland—providing the resources needed to build safe, affordable homes for families in our community.

Your support helps provide homes and new beginnings for people in need. Thank you,
Rosemarie Ascherl-Lenhard, PR Foreman"



VIVA Bavaria hosts Gedächtnismesse 2026

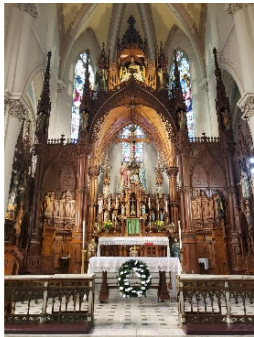
VIVA Bavaria hosts Gedächtnismesse 2026



VIVA Bavaria welcomes everyone to a Gedächtnismesse (Remembrance Mass) on Sunday, November 1, 2026 at 11:00 am at St. Stephen Church, 1930 West 54th Street in Cleveland. Following Mass, all are invited to the Donauschwaben German-American Cultural Center (7370 Columbia Rd, Olmsted Township) for their annual Kirchweih.

St. Stephen is one of the most beautiful churches in Cleveland. Established in 1869, it was built by and was home to the largest number of German Catholics in Cleveland and, more than 100 years later, continues to honor its heritage by celebrating a German-language Mass on the first Sunday of each month.

The Gedächtnismesse is a Mass in the German language in thanksgiving and recognition of your dearly departed family and friends. All are invited to attend and / or offer an intention. To commemorate a family member or friend, please follow the instructions below.



Intensions Wreath
at the altar

All names will be included in the Worship Program Booklet, placed on the Intensions Wreath, and read during Mass.

For the inclusion of your loved one(s) in the Worship Program Booklet, names must be received by **Friday, October 23, 2026.**

Your loved one(s) do not need to be Catholic or German to be commemorated and all are welcome to attend, regardless of religion or heritage.

We encourage you to wear traditional Tracht to attend Mass and the reception that follows.

Net proceeds benefit the St. Stephen Church Maintenance Fund.

For more information, contact Regina Rock-Ott (216-598-5049) or email at rockott2014@gmail.com

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Please submit payment (\$15 per name suggested) via check, VENMO or St. Stephen's website.

Be certain to provide the name(s) of your loved one(s) being memorialized.

Payment via Check:	Payment via VENMO:	Payment via ststephencleveland.org
Mail this form with a check to: VIVA Bavaria 7218 Lilac Court North Olmsted, OH 44070	@vivabavaria • Use the "What's this for?" box to enter your loved one(s) name(s) • Click "Pay"	• Scroll down to "Proceed to Online Giving Site" • Enter donation amount • Select "German Mass of Remembrance" • Enter your loved one(s) name(s) in the Memo • Click "continue" and enter your Payment Method information

Your Name _____ Phone _____

Please clearly print the name(s) of your loved one(s) being commemorated:

FOR YOUR RECORDS: The Internal Revenue Service requires VIVA Bavaria, a 501 (c) (3) organization, to inform you that the organization has not provided any goods or services in exchange for your donation. This donation is fully tax deductible under the law.

Herbstfest / German Day • October 4th

HERBSTFEST

A FALL FESTIVAL CELEBRATING GERMAN DAY

Presented by VIVA Bavaria

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2026

12 - 6 P.M.

GERMAN CENTRAL ORGANIZATION | PARMA, OH



LIVE
MUSIC



FOLK
DANCING



FAMILY
GAMES



HAYRIDES



GERMAN
FOOD

Admission: \$5 for adults 16+
Children under 16 are FREE

Hayrides are available at additional cost

vivabavaria.org/herbstfest-german-day



Celebrate German heritage, music and tradition at Herbstfest celebrating German Day, presented by VIVA Bavaria. This family-friendly fall festival brings Northeast Ohio's German and Austrian communities together for an afternoon of live entertainment, traditional performances, games, hayrides and plenty of "gemütlichkeit".

Herbstfest is more than a fall festival. It is an opportunity to gather with family and friends, celebrate the traditions passed down through generations and experience the music, dancing and community that make German culture so special.

Indoor performances, outdoor entertainment and games are included in the \$5 admission at the gate. Horse-drawn hayrides require an additional ticket.

Pro-Life Events

A plan to end abortion by fasting and prayer from **September 23rd to November 1st**. Call 440-585-5317.

Knowing that "with God, all things are possible," people of faith and conscience unite in 40 days of prayer and fasting. Christ told us some demons can only be driven out by prayer and fasting. The two go hand in hand. Prayer keeps us rooted in the fact that it is our desire to carry out God's will. Fasting is a sacrifice that helps us reach beyond our own limitations with God's help.



PRO-LIFE PRAYERFUL WITNESS

Pro-Life Peaceful, Prayerful witness by the Planned Parenthood office, corner of Brookpark & Broadview Roads. Saturdays, 10:30-11:30 am. Join us on the public sidewalk. Pray to end abortion. *Questions?* Call Doris Peters at 216-659-3362.

Holy Land Gifts

Feel the Spirit of the Holy Land



THE HOLY LAND

The carving of the Olive Wood Tree has been inherited since the time of our Lord, Jesus Christ. It was passed down from father to son for many generations, including our family. More than 80% of the Christian community's income comes from tourism and the olive wood trade. However, due to the ongoing difficult circumstances and the tremendous decrease in tourism, the Christian community has suffered many hardships that led many Christian Families to leave their homes in search of work and safety. Our mission is to support and strengthen the presence of Christianity in the Holy Land by selling its beautiful olive wood artifacts here in the United States. We have been blessed and grateful to have had the opportunity to travel to different parishes all around the United States for the past 16 years to represent these less fortunate Christians. We are happy to announce that we will be visiting your parish on **October 24th and 25th**.

We encourage you to look over their beautiful hand-carved items. We value your support. We will be accepting cash, credit cards & checks. May God bless you & keep you safe. Contact us at 1-248-915-9933. Our website: Jerusalemgiftsshop.com.

Latin Social • October 25th



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!

BE A DIGITAL DISCIPLE!

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amy@5starspace.com
216.202.0736

FiveStar Space
Organized by Amy A. Mushinski

Professional Organizing Services
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NICK SERIO
PLAQUE SALES,
MARKETING & DESIGN

C: 330.734.8395
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WILLOUGHBY, OH 44094

NICK@ACWELLMAN.COM
ACWELLMAN.COM

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 advertisement 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