

# 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

**First Sunday of Advent —November 28 and 29 2026**

## Parish Office Hours

Monday thru Friday 9am-5pm
Closed Saturday/Sunday/Holidays

## Pastoral Staff

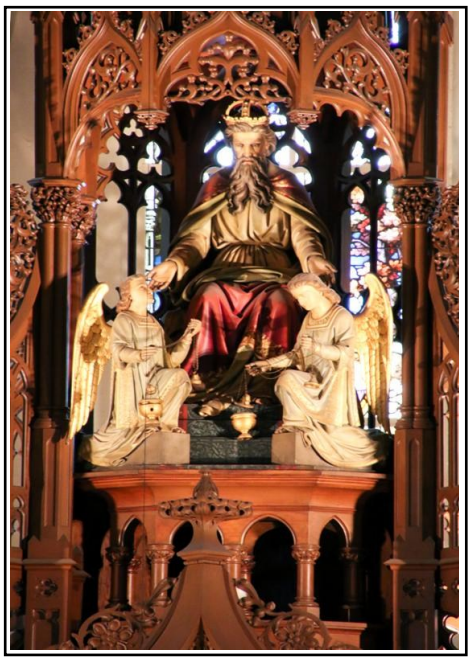
**Pastor:**
Rev. Caroli B. Shao, A.J.
**Parochial Vicar:**
Rev. Benjamin Koka, A.J.
**Latin Mass Celebrant:**
Rev. Bede Kotlinski, O.S.B.
**German Mass Celebrant:**

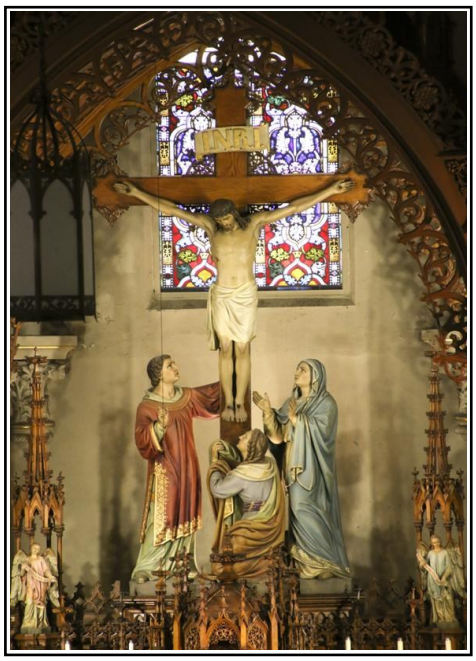
## Parish Staff

**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.

**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

**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.

# *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 celebrated in the Church***

**Saturday, November 28, 2026**
**Vigil of The First Sunday of Advent**
5:00 PM † Ronald Brodzinski

**Sunday, November 29, 2026**
**First Sunday of Advent**
8:00 AM Alex and Taylor
11:00 AM † Tim Hennessey

**Monday, November 30, 2026**
**Saint Andrew, Apostle**
6:30 PM Monks of St. Andrew Abbey

**Tuesday, December 1, 2026**
**Advent Weekday**
6:45 AM Latin — The Lipfird Family
6:30 PM † Audrey Knipp

**Wednesday, December 2, 2026**
**Advent Weekday**
6:30 PM † Carol Dare
7:00-8:00 PM Confession, Holy Hour, Benediction

**Thursday, December 3, 2026**
**Saint Francis Xavier, Priest**
6:30 PM Karen Cables

**Friday, December 4, 2026**
**Advent Weekday**
6:30 PM Latin (1st Friday) Ambrogio Charbel Pantile

**Saturday, December 5, 2026**
**Saturday of the First Week of Advent**
9:30 AM †† Robert and Coletta Spuhler
**Vigil of The Second Sunday of Advent**
5:00 PM † Mario Pekar

**Sunday, December 6, 2026**
**Second Sunday of Advent**
8:00 AM † Helene Mausser
11:00 AM German — † Horst and † Herman Kinscher
†† Max and Sophie Juran

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

## CELEBRANT & LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

### First Sunday of Advent
### November 28, 2026 — November 29, 2026

| | 5:00pm Mass | 8:00am Mass | 11:00am Mass |
|---|---|---|---|
| Celebrant: | Fr. Benjamin | Fr. Benjamin | Fr. Benjamin |
| Lector: | Russ Nieling | | Diana Lipfird |
| EM: | Jean Gandee | | |
| Acolyte: | | | |

### Second Sunday of Advent
### December 5, 2026 — December 6, 2026

| | 5:00pm Mass | 8:00am Mass | 11:00am Mass |
|---|---|---|---|
| Celebrant: | Fr. Caroli | Fr. Caroli | Fr. Caroli |
| Lector: | Diana Lipfird | Doris Peters | Robert Filippi / Dr. Tina Waters |
| EM: | Jean Gandee | | Liz Filippi / Dianna Hosta |
| Acolyte: | | | |

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

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 29, 2026

| | |
|---|---|
| Sunday: | Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37 |
| Monday: | Rom 10:9-18/Mt 4:18-22 |
| Tuesday: | Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24 |
| Wednesday: | Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37 |
| Thursday: | Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27 |
| Friday: | Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31 |
| Saturday: | Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8 |

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

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

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

# First Sunday of Advent —November 28 and 29 2026

## REFLECTION

The Advent season has come for us to prepare zealously to celebrate the glorious birth of Jesus. In this salvific event, Christ humbled Himself and took human flesh to present in the world and to enable mankind to reach God. This period is intended for personal and communal preparations to celebrate God's presence among His people. The coming of Jesus was to invite people for the heavenly banquet and advised his followers to be watchful and alert. He promised to return, but nobody knows the time He will come. We are advised importantly to attend to spiritual purification without neglecting the material needs.
Since the Light of Christ is to shine for all people, we are to share this great joy with others by words and works of mercy to relatives and specifically the people in poor families. Christian be watchful, and make others to do the same for the love of Christ. Amen. ~ Fr. Benjamin Koka, A.J.



## APOSTLES OF JESUS MISSION APPEAL

Bishop Edward Malesic has given permission to the Apostles of Jesus to conduct a mission appeal once a year at St. Stephen Church. For those who do not know, our Priests, Fr. Caroli Shao and Fr. Ben Koka, are members of the Apostles of Jesus.
The Apostles of Jesus is a Missionary Order founded in Uganda-Africa in the year 1968 by two Italian Comboni Missionaries for the evangelization of Africa and the World. Working with various Catholic Dioceses in the world, the Apostles of Jesus are engaged in various fields of apostolate, namely: Primary Evangelization, Parish Ministry, Clinical Pastoral Care and Hospital Chaplaincy, Nursing Homes/Aids Ministry, and Formation of the Lay Leaders.
All funds raised from this mission appeal will help to educate the many vocations in the society of the Apostles of Jesus in Africa. This mission appeal will take place here at St. Stephen Parish on **December 5 and 6, 2026**. Please prayerfully consider contributing generously to this annual appeal.



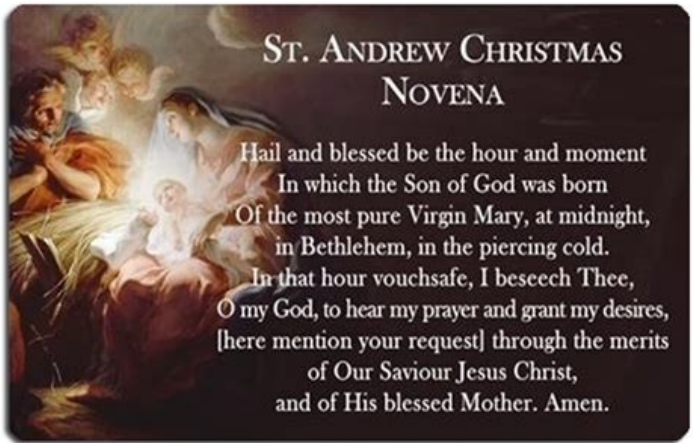


## ADVENT CANDLELIGHT LATIN MASS
## FEAST OF SAINT JUAN DIEGO

The 17th Annual St. John Berchmans Advent Candlelight Latin Mass will be celebrated by Rev. Bede Kotlinski, O.S.B. on **Tuesday, December 9th, 2026 at 7:00 AM** at Historic St. Stephen Catholic Church, 1930 W. 54th Street, Cleveland, OH 44102.
Mass will be served by the St. John Berchmans Altar Servers Ministry (SJB), comprised of students from St. Ignatius, Benedictine, and other local Catholic high schools and Home Schools.
Music will be directed by Annette Spallone Murphy. Prelude will begin at **6:45 AM**.
Latin-English Missals will be available for use during Mass.
Rosaries will be distributed and refreshments will be served following the Mass.
The Candlelight Latin Mass is a beautiful way to celebrate the Advent season. Join us as we honor the Feast of Saint Juan Diego, humble messenger of Our Lady of Guadalupe. All are welcome and encouraged to attend this special Mass. Please invite your family and friends.
**See a life-sized replica of the Our Lady of Guadalupe Tilma on display at the Mass.**
The SJB Altar Servers Ministry 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.

# St. Andrew Christmas Novena

St. Andrew's feast, November 30, traditionally marks the end of the Church year and beginning of Advent. Advent always begins on the Sunday closest to November 30, with this day being the last possible day of the old Liturgical Year.
St. Andrew's Day also marks the beginning of a special Christmas devotion which carries special graces for those who keep it with faith. This novena (also known as the Christmas Anticipation Prayer and whose exact origins are unknown), is commonly believed to have begun in Ireland in the 19th century. It reflects the anticipation of Advent and honors St. Andrew's role as one of the first apostles called by Jesus.
From November 30 through Christmas Eve, parishioners are invited to recite this prayer 15 times daily—meditating on Christ's birth and asking God to hear our intentions through the merits of Jesus and Mary.



# Parish Announcements

**CHRISTMAS MASS AT NIGHT**
**VIGIL**—Thursday, December 24th
Children's Mass 5:00 pm
English Mass at Night 10:00pm

**CHRISTMAS DAY**
Friday, December 25th
*No Confessions*
Latin Mass 9:30 am
English Mass 11:00 am

**ST. STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR**
Saturday, December 26th
Latin Mass 9:30am

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY,**
**THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**
**VIGIL**—New Year's Eve — Thursday, December 31st
English Mass 4:00 pm

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY**
**THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**
New Year's Day — Friday, January 1st
*No Confessions*
Latin Mass 9:30 am
English Mass 11:00 am

## Heiligenblut Nativity Mass—January 3, 2027

Heiligenbluter Krippenmesse (Heiligenblut Nativity Mass)

The Gottscheer Heimatchor will sing the "Heiligenbluter Krippenmesse" (Heiligenblut Nativity Mass) at the **11:00am German Mass on Sunday, January 3**.

This Mass setting takes its name from the village of Heiligenblut am Großglockner in the Austrian state of Carinthia. Nestled at the base of the tallest mountain in Austria, it is the site of an annual tradition going back to the 16th century. On the evening and night of January 5, carollers ("Sternsinger", literally translated as "star singers") go from house to house bringing blessings to the inhabitants. Each carolling group ("Rotte") consists of one star-bearer ("Sternträger"), five instrumentalists, and nine singers.* Our January 4 German Mass at St. Stephen Church will honor this sublime tradition. No knowledge of German is needed to appreciate the beauty of the "Heiligenbluter Krippenmesse". What better way to close this Christmas season?

A German-language Mass is celebrated on the first Sunday of every month at 11:00am (except Easter Sunday). If you have any questions or are interested in additional information regarding the monthly German Mass at St. Stephen, please contact the Parish Office at: 216-631-5633.

*https://www.unesco.at/en/culture/intangible-cultural-heritage/national-inventory/news-1/article/christmas-caroling-in-heiligenblut





# Parish Announcements

## St. Vincent de Paul Ministry—Giving Tree



During Advent, the Saint Vincent DePaul Ministry will host its annual "Giving Tree" initiative benefiting the Pregnancy Center. The Christmas "giving tree" is a way to donate gifts to those who are less fortunate at Christmas.

Please pick an ornament and then purchase the requested item, affix the wooden ornament to the gift and place it beneath the tree. Gifts should be placed under the tree no later than January 3rd.

Please note that they are only accepting new items, not gently worn. They need diaper sizes 3, 4, and 5. If you wish to donate other sizes, please consider donating to other Cleveland-based prolife organizations.

Thank you for your continued assistance and generosity to the mission of the St. Vincent de Paul Ministry!

## 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 began on Thursday, October 29th** and are held from **6:30pm—8:00pm.** To register, call the parish office at 216-631-5633. Sponsors and those wishing to renew their faith are also welcome.

## Confirmation / First Communion Classes



Classes will be held on **December 5th** & **19th** at **10:30am** in the Metro School Building in Rooms 107 and 109. **Registration is now closed.** *Questions*? Call Diana Lipfird at 440-532-9491.

**NOVEMBER 22, 2026**
**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

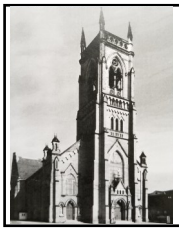
| | |
|---|---|
| General Offertory Collection | $957.00 |
| Children | $2.50 |
| Building Fund | $45.00 |
| Candles | $105.50 |
| Church Tour/Booklet Sale | $70.00 |
| Ecclesia Nostra | $3,070.12 |
| Food Pantry | $3,540.00 |
| General Donation | $220.00 |
| St. Vincent de Paul Ministry | 246.00 |
| Utilities | $20.00 |
| Diocesan: Campaign for Human Development | $10.00 |

***Thank you all for your generosity!***

**MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES WEEK OF NOVEMBER 29, 2026**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Sun, Nov 29** | Schola Practice (CR) | 8:00am |
| | Latin Social (CR) | after 9:30am Mass |
| **Thurs, Dec 3** | OCIA (StC) | 6:30pm |

(C) Church • (CR) Club Rm • (SFR) St Francis Rm • (R) Rectory • • (MCS) Metro Catholic School • (StC) St. Colman



The Tower Lights are being illuminated during the month of November
In Memory Of

**† Streeter Stephen Speakman III (Tre)**
October 14, 1946—February 12, 2018

*Please remember him in your prayers!*

## EUCHARISTIC DEVOTION



**We have Eucharistic Devotion on Wednesday Evening after 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 at Mass, Confession and Eucharistic Adoration! What a wonderful way to Thank our Lord for all that He does for us.

## News from the Pews

### CONGRATULATIONS TO…

**Christopher** and **Danielle Dorobish**, on the baptism of their son, **Benjamin**, who was welcomed into the One Holy Catholic Church, through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Sunday, November 15, 2026!




### CONGRATULATIONS TO…

**Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan and Julie Lang,** who were united in the Holy Sacrament of Marriage on Saturday, November 21, 2026!




## Outreach Ministry



We wish to thank all Parishioners and donors for their very generous financial support of both our Food Pantry and Outreach Ministry's efforts to help those in need to enjoy their Thanksgiving holiday.

On Thursday, November 19th, **76** families were each given 3 bags of groceries, as well as a $25.00 gift card to go towards their Thanksgiving meals. The gift cards were provided by an anonymous donor.

THANK YOU to the Outreach Committee, parishioners, donors and to those who have volunteered their time in support of this Ministry!

## Dean's Greenhouse Fundraiser

Looking for Poinsettias other seasonal items or gardening supplies? You can support St. Stephen from November 17th through December 24th by shopping at Dean's Greenhouse, 3984 Porter Rd., Westlake, Ohio.

Dean's Greenhouse established 1984

Just mention St. Stephen when you check out and we will receive 20% of your order. Thank you for your support!

# Parish Community Advertisements





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*GOD BLESS and THANK YOU !*

Please Call the Parish Office for more information

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**10% goes to the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre**