



St. Stephen the Martyr
CATHOLIC CHURCH
Encounter, Know, Proclaim

April 17th, 2022

Pray & Worship

Mass Schedule

Daily: Monday-Friday at 6:30 AM & 8:15 AM*;
Saturday at 8:15 AM*

Weekend: Saturday at 5:00 PM; Sunday at 7:30 AM,
9:00 AM*, 10:30 AM & 6:00 PM

*These Masses will be live-streamed on our Facebook
Facebook page ([https://www.facebook.com/
StStephensCatholicChurchOmaha](https://www.facebook.com/StStephensCatholicChurchOmaha)) and our website
(stephen.org/live-stream)

Private Prayer

Daily Mass Chapel and Worship Space are open
from 9 AM to 9 PM Monday-Friday and from 10:00
AM to 6 PM on Saturday-Sunday. The Adoration
Chapel is open 24/7; door access code: 9675*

Eucharistic Adoration Holy Hours

⇒ Sundays with Solemn Vespers from 4 to 5 PM
⇒ First Friday of the Month from 9 AM to 2:30 PM
No sign up required. Come as you are to spend time
with Jesus. In the Worship Space or Facebook Live.

Contact Us

Parish Office:

Phone: 402-896-9675
Emergency: 402-896-9675 ext 2
Office Hours: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, M-F

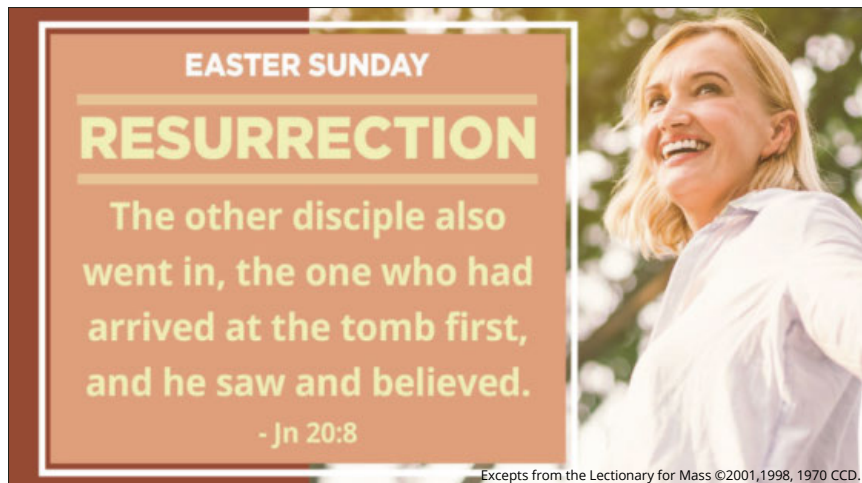
Pastor: Fr. David Belt

Associate Pastor: Fr. Ben Boyd

Staff Contact Info: stephen.org/staff

Bulletin Deadline:

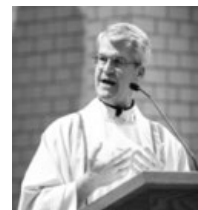
Submit requests to a.hartwig@stephen.org.



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Pastor's Message—From Father Dave

"You have been enlightened by Christ. Walk always as children of the light and keep the flame of faith alive in your hearts. When the Lord comes, may you go out to meet Him with all the saints in the heavenly kingdom."



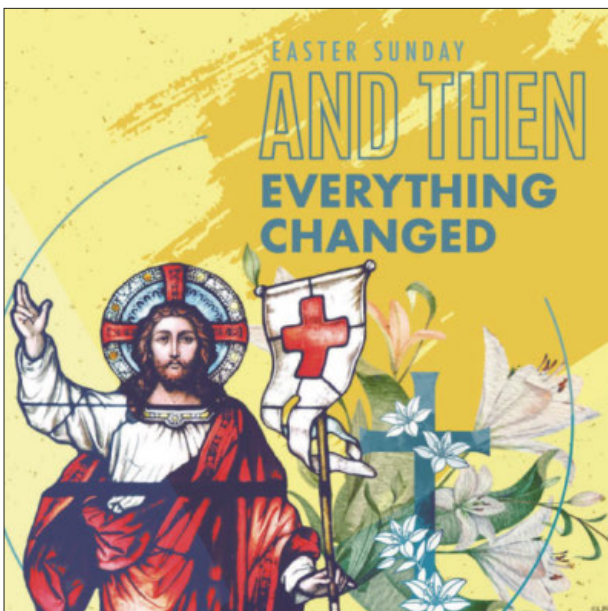
This exhortation may sound familiar to you. As a newly-Baptized person in the Catholic Church receives their Baptismal candle, which is lit from the Easter Candle, these are the words that are spoken. This prayer is appropriate for our reflection as we begin this Easter Season. These great days of celebrating our Resurrection faith are centered in the gift of Baptism. We believe that Baptism frees us from original sin and gives us the opportunity to enjoy everlasting life in heaven. But the only way that we can enter this new life of heaven is if we live our faith in the Risen Christ every day. That means that we refuse to let the darkness of sin and evil overshadow our lives. This is a challenge in our society today, because there are so many temptations and messages that are contrary to the message of Jesus Christ and His cross.

As you continue your walk with the Lord, always remember that "you have been enlightened by Christ." You carry with you a fire of love and grace that can never be extinguished. Never forget that we will never be separated from Jesus—no matter how far we wander from Him in our sinfulness. After a life of faithful service, may we all go out to meet Jesus with the saints in heaven.

"Yes, Christ is truly risen, and we are witnesses of this. We proclaim this witness to the world, so that the joy which is ours will reach countless other hearts, kindling in them the light of the hope which does not disappoint." — St. John Paul II, 2000

On behalf of Father Boyd, and myself, I want to wish you and your family a very joyful Easter. May the peace and hope of the Risen Christ fill your hearts and families with great joy!

May God bless you!
Father Dave



Congratulations Newly Baptized!

Ella Keenan,
daughter of Justin and Amanda
Landon Robert Wilkie,
son of Cameron and Jourdain



First Holy Communion

The 2nd graders of our faith community will be receiving First Holy Communion on Sunday, April 24th (School Students) and Sunday, May 1st (RE Students). Please keep these children and their families in your prayers!



16701 "S" Street, Omaha, NE 68135 | (402) 896-9675 | stephen.org

St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic Church is a community for all people to encounter Christ, know Christ, and proclaim Christ.

Sacraments

Reconciliation

Tuesday: 5:30-6:30 PM & Saturday: 3:30-4:45 PM

Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays. Parents are required to attend a preparation class. Contact the parish office for information or visit:

stephen.org/sacraments

Matrimony

Preparation for Marriage begins at least 6 months prior to the desired wedding date. Contact parish office for more information.

Anointing of the Sick

Contact Deacon Denny at (402) 861-4538 or d.dethlefs@stephen.org.

Homebound Eucharist

Contact the parish office to make arrangements.

Parish office phone number: (402) 896-9675

Financial Stewardship

Offertory & Online Giving 4/5—4/11/2022:

Actual:	\$58,843
Budget:	\$46,693
FYTD Actual:	\$2,061,851
FYTD Budget:	\$2,023,375

St. Stephen the Martyr operates on a Fiscal Year from July 1—June 30

Thank you for your generous giving!

Your financial support is vital to the well-being of our church and school. To make a gift or complete a pledge for 2022, simply scan the QR code or go to stephen.org/give.

Offertory envelopes may also be mailed to our office: 16701 S Street, Omaha NE 68135.



"...He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him." (Acts 10:38)

We can't give what we don't have. Open your heart to receive God's love, mercy and forgiveness. Then, show the same to others. As God's adopted sons and daughters, we are made in His image and likeness. As Pope Benedict XVI says, "we are made for greatness." Let our lives reflect His light to others. Pray to live a grateful and generous life. Strive for greatness! We are made for more! We are made for God!

#StewardshipReflection

Graduating High School Seniors
Mass & Breakfast
June 5th, 2022, 9 AM



High School Seniors: Save the Date!

Class of 2022 Graduates of our parish and their parents are invited to share in the 9 AM Mass followed by breakfast at 10 AM on Sunday, June 5th.

Look for more information coming soon.

School News

United in Christ to ignite the joy of faith, community, and learning.

- ⇒ **Happy Easter** – We wish our students, families, teachers, staff and Parish family a very Happy Easter! Our office is closed over Easter break through Tuesday, April 19. Classes will resume on Wednesday, April 20.
- ⇒ **We're Hiring Teachers for the 2022/2023 School Year** – St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic School is currently looking for positive, engaging teachers to join our staff in the fall of 2022. Please view our job postings for Elementary Teachers and for a Middle School Math Teacher at stephen.org/careers. Interested applicants should contact Julie Perrault, Principal, at (402) 896-0754 or j.perrault@stephen.org.
- ⇒ **It's Not Too Late To Enroll** – We have limited openings in 1st-8th grade classes and Early Childhood. Our Early Childhood programs include:
 - 2-Day Preschool: 3-year-old, 2 days/week, AM or PM Sessions
 - 3-Day Preschool: 3-year-old, 3 days/week, AM Session
 - 3-Day PreK: 4 & 5-year-old, 3 days/week, PM Session
 - 5-Day PreK: 4 & 5-year-old, 5 days/week, PM Session
 - Transitional Kindergarten (TK): 5-year-old, 5 days/week, all-dayApply or request a tour at school.stephen.org/admissions.
- ⇒ **2022/2023 School Year Volunteer Opportunities** – Want to get involved at our school? Now is the time! Our Home & School Association needs your help for the 2022/23 school year! Check out the open committee head & committee member positions posted at school.stephen.org/volunteer. We are able to do amazing things in our school because of all of the hard work and dedication of our families! Thank you for your consideration and your commitment to our school!

Religious Education News

- ⇒ **Next School Year** — Registration will open soon! Our registration for Religious Education classes will be online this year and we are not quite ready with the switch over yet. Thank you for your patience! We are hoping to make this a very simple process for our families. Stay tuned.
- ⇒ **Vacation Bible School** — Registration is full; email Eileen at e.smith@stephen.org to be added to the waitlist; please include child's name and grade-level for the fall. Spots are open, however, for the children of our Station Leaders! Thank you to volunteers who have signed up so far. We need a few more! Will you consider helping? More at stephen.org/vbs2022
- ⇒ **Totus Tuus** — Registration is coming soon! Thank you for your patience! June 26-30, 2022 (Sun-Thurs for 7th-12th graders) and June 27-July 1, 2022 (Mon-Fri for 1st-6th graders)

Youth Ministry News

- ⇒ **Life Teen (High School)** — Sunday, April 24th, 7-9 PM in GPC — There will be no Life Teen this week, Teens! We hope you have a happy Easter and enjoy time with your family. Join us next time for a Life Night that you'll be SORRY to miss!
- ⇒ **Edge (Middle School)** — Tuesday, April 19th, 6:30-8 PM in Dining Room — Who knew that humor can be Holy? Join us for a great night full of laughs, a reminder that humor can unite or divide, and even a special gift for those present!
- ⇒ **Life Teen Weekend Retreat for 8th-12th Grade Teens** — Friday, May 20th-Sunday, May 22nd — We need some JOY in our lives! And we want a chance to welcome and celebrate our incoming Freshmen. That's why 8th-12th Grade Teens are invited to take the weekend to get away and rediscover true joy, how to find it, and how to sustain it. Throw in some friends, loads of laughter, the Sacraments, maybe even a NERF war or two, and this will be a retreat to remember! Our retreat will be held at the Pro Sanctity Center in Elkhorn. Cost is \$80 per participant and includes lodging, meals, a retreat t-shirt, and a special retreat keepsake. Register at www.smartwaiver.com/v/springretreat2022. Register by Noon on Friday, April 29th to be guaranteed a retreat t-shirt.
- ⇒ **Steubenville: Registration is STILL OPEN!** This weekend conference evangelizes, equips and empowers 8th-12th grade youth to become radical, joyful disciples. We will be attending the Conference in Rochester, MN on Friday, July 15 - Sunday, July 17, 2022. Visit stephen.org/steubenville for more information and to register.

Tickets on Sale NOW!

St. Stephen the Martyr



**We're gathering under the moonlight and in the gym
for an evening of fellowship, fundraising and FUN!**

Indoor | Outdoor Reception
Catered, Plated Dinner
DJ Music | Dancing
Cocktails | Beer | Wine
Silent & Live Auction
Fund-A-Need Opportunities
White Attire Encouraged
\$100 Per Ticket



RSVP Required

Visit: bidpal.net/martyrmission2020 or
scan the QR Code:



Event proceeds benefit St. Stephen the Martyr Church and School

Easter Flower Memorials

In Memory Of:

Emil & Janette Adam, honored by Mike & Missy Adam
Deceased members of the Adam Family, honored by Larry & Carol
Jim Ahl, honored by Mike & Missy Adam
Anne & Colin Aitken, honored by Steve & Colleen Simonsen
Fred Appleby, Bruce Appleby, Chuck Appleby, honored by Mike & Linda
Ray & Leona Armstrong, honored by Michael & Barbara Armstrong
Howard Ball, honored by Sharleen Ball
Troy Barnes, honored by Lloyd & Helen Barnes
Deceased Members of Barnes Family, honored by Lloyd & Helen
Cecelia Bera, honored by Deacon Chuck & Ann Botdorf
Cyril Berthiaume, honored by Jeffrey & Karen Berthiaume
Sylvan & Virginia Bissen, honored by Martha Fawcett
Deceased members of the Blazek Family, honored by Larry & Carol
Madeline Bock, honored by Scott & Kathy Reuman
Charles & Lois Botdorf, honored by Deacon Chuck & Ann Botdorf
Terrence Boyle, honored by Todd Daly
Deceased Members of Buras Family, honored by Ron & Jean Buras
Dean & Irene Butterfield, honored by Robert & Margene
Shirley Byrne, honored by Tom & Anne Byrne
Jerry & Shirley Carnazzo, honored by Joe & Angie Carnazzo
Elizabeth Chitsey, honored by Jeffrey & Karen Berthiaume
Anna Chmura, honored by Mary Venditte
Stefan Chmura, honored by Mary Venditte
Roman Chmura, honored by Mary Venditte
Eugene & Doris Christiansen, honored by John & Julie Christiansen
Bill Clayton, honored by Joyce Murphy
Ann Copeland, honored by Brian Gappa
Bill & Viola Cords, honored by Joyce Murphy
Marvin Cords, honored by Joyce Murphy
Bill Cords, honored by Joyce Murphy
John Cortinas, honored by Carol Cortinas
Les Davis, honored by Tom & Jo Davis
Karen Decker, honored by Jason & Bobbie Decker
Richard E. Delaney, honored by Steve & Cathy Lorenz
Les Desterhouse, honored by Cheryl Desterhouse
August & Thelma Dethlefs, honored by Dcn Denny & Janice Dethlefs
Jack Dobrinska, honored by Diane Dobrinska
Roy Doty, honored by Mae Doty
Joseph Dougherty, honored by Pat Dougherty
Terry Doukas, honored by Richard & Nancy Larson
Joe & Charlotte Dziurawiec, honored by Marie Stibbs
Bill & Mary Estelle Ehret, honored by Jeff & Melissa Kane
Rita Ellinghousen, honored by Jason & Bobbie Decker
Greg & Mary Elwer, honored by Liz & Brandon Souba
Jill Faber, honored by Tom & Anne Byrne
Ruth Faulkner, honored by Scott & Kathy Reuman
Rodger Fawcett, honored by Martha Fawcett
Ryan Fawcett, honored by Martha Fawcett
Warren & Alice Fawcett, honored by Martha Fawcett
Charles & Isabel Feld, honored by Norb & Marlou Muhlbauer
Joe & Marie Ferrara, honored by Jeff & Mary Risavi
Alan Fochek, honored by Amanda Ruh
Dorothy Gappa, honored by Brian Gappa
Michael & Concetta Giardina, honored by Lucy Siracuse
Lillian Gordon, honored by Billie Watsabaugh
William Gordon, honored by Billie Watsabaugh



Christian Neal Grandgenett, honored by Eric Grandgenett
Dale Greimann, honored by Leslie Schulte
Jesse Greise, honored by Jason & Bobbie Decker
Ed Guchtman, honored by Ken & Joanie Fuchtman
Phillip Gulizia, honored by Debra Gulizi
Marjean Gulizia, honored by Debra Gulizi
Christine Gutowski, honored by Larry & Margaret Drake
John Gutowski, honored by Larry & Margaret Drake
Michael Gutowski, honored by Larry & Margaret Drake
Susan Gutowski, honored by Larry & Margaret Drake
Bob Gyhra, honored by Teresa Pfister
Kim Hacker, honored by Tom Hacker
Kim Hacker, honored by Bob & Maurine Hacker
Barney Hallett, honored by Timothy & Michelle Hallett
Leo & Anna Hallett, honored by Timothy & Michelle Hallett
Richard Hansen, honored by Jeff & Sheri Keane / Bailey
Betty Hansen, honored by Jeff & Sheri Keane / Bailey
Ali Harrington, honored by Ruth McDermott
Eileen Hartmann, honored by Bruce, Sue & Mike Sharp
Mary Jane Harvey, honored by Pat & Mary Egan
Clarence Heiman, honored by Jason & Bobbie Decker
Dorothy Heiman, honored by Jason & Bobbie Decker
Leonard & Dorothy Hiemer, honored by Robert & Margene
Deceased Members of Hoffmann Family, honored by Ron & Jean
James Huffman, honored by Rose Huffman
Jacob Hurd, honored by Norm & Rochelle Thomas
Richard Hytrek, honored by Kevin & Jackie Hytrek
Ron Ingram, honored by Sharon Ingram
Deceased Members of Johnson Family, honored by Ron & Jean Buras
Bob & Shirley Kane, honored by Jeff & Melissa Kane
Mick Keane, honored by Jeff & Sheri Keane / Bailey
Mary Kirk, honored by Timothy Mergens
Michelle Klabunde, honored by Martha Fawcett
Harold & Beth Kleinjam, honored by Mike & Missy Adam
Ralph & Estelle Koch, honored by Michael & Barbara Armstrong
Joe Koley, honored by Timothy & Michelle Hallett
Joe & Helen Korgie, honored by Lloyd & Helen Barnes
Fr. Clarence Korgie OFM, honored by Lloyd & Helen Barnes
Mom (Mary) Kramer, honored by Bridget Kramer
Joann Krumwied, honored by Kevin & Jackie Hytrek
Parents of Leonard & Alice Kruse, honored by Leonard & Alice
Dan Kuchta, honored by Sandra Kuchta
Ron Kuzelka, honored by Theresa Kuzelka

Easter Flower Memorials

In Memory Of:

Mr. & Mrs. William R. Lanning, honored by Scott & Karen Stevens
Deceased Members of Larson Family, honored by Richard & Nancy
Patrick & Shirley Lasauskas, honored by Anton Lasauskas
Richard & Margaret Lauritsen, honored by John & Barbara Secora
Vi & Marvin Limbeck, honored by Randy & Joyce Limbeck
Robert Limbeck, honored by Randy & Joyce Limbeck
Deceased Members of James Long family, honored by Carole Stickels
The Grandparents of Brett & Katie Lutmer, honored by Katie Lutmer
Dave & Gladys Mandel, honored by Deann Grovijohn
Paul & Marilyn McDermott, honored by Joe & Angie Carnazzo
Ray & Alice McDermott, honored by Ruth McDermott
Joe & Dolores McGill, honored by Roland & Marilyn Wedige
Richard & Kevin McMahan, honored by Bob & Nancy McMahan
Joseph & Frances Mickells, honored by Richard & Nancy Larson
Deceased members of the Mills Family, honored by Larry & Carol
Russ Mitchell, honored by Jan Mitchell
Ernie & Cora Mitchell, honored by Jan Mitchell
Walter & Elanor Mondor, honored by Mike & Missy Adam
Gary Mongar, honored by Carol Mongar
Michael Mongar, honored by Carol Mongar
Jerry Morris, honored by Alecia & Jason Hartwig
Charles & Ann Muhlbauer, honored by Norb & Marlou Muhlbauer
Thomas Mullen, honored by Brian & Deanna Mullen
Roy Murphy, honored by Joyce Murphy
Debra Newmaster, honored by Pat Dougherty
Joseph Ostrowski, honored by Mike & Missy Adam
Wilma Pearson, honored by Joyce Murphy
Allen & Hannah Perdue, honored by Bill & Cheri Perdue
Eddie & Elda Pfister, honored by Teresa Pfister
Arnold & Maxine Pivonka, honored by Dcn Denny & Janice Dethlefs
Jerome & Sally Promes, honored by Ken & Joanie Fuchtman
Valentina Quintana, honored by Norma S Quintana
Donald Reuman, honored by Scott & Kathy Reuman
Deceased Members of Richter Family, honored by Paul & Carol
Roy Riesselman, honored by Dennis & Ruth Riesselman
Ione Riesselman, honored by Dennis & Ruth Riesselman
Jindra Rinker, honored by Tina Schmidt
Ellen Ritz, honored by Ken & Joanie Fuchtman
Robert & Andrea Rodman, honored by Anton Lasauskas
May & Herb Ruhr, honored by Randy & Joyce Limbeck
Deceased Members of Schumacher Family, honored by Paul & Carol
Anton & Nellie Secora, honored by John & Barbara Secora
George Sedlak, honored by Jeffrey & Karen Berthiaume
Helen Sedlak, honored by Jeffrey & Karen Berthiaume
Maria Senior, honored by Rose Huffman
Deceased members of the Setlak Family, honored by Larry & Carol
Egon & Alice Simonsen, honored by Steve & Colleen Simonsen
Joseph Siracuse, honored by Lucy Siracuse
Leo & Sylvia Siracuse, honored by Lucy Siracuse
Lawrence & Bernadette Slamons, honored by Nicole Stringer



Lawrence & Bernadine Spieker, honored by Shirley Spieker
Jim & JoAnn Stachura, honored by Bill & Cheri Perdue
Fred & Delores Staebell, honored by Jason Ollerich
Ike Steffen, honored by Dennis & Ruth Riesselman
Hilda Steffer, honored by Dennis & Ruth Riesselman
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Stevens, honored by Scott & Karen Stevens
Jerry Stibbs & siblings, honored by Marie Stibbs
Deceased Members of Don Stickels family, honored by Carole Stickels
Bernie Stopak, honored by Debra Gulizi
Gerald & Mary Lynn Stringer, honored by Nicole Stringer
Francis & Mary Swircinski, honored by Richard & Marilyn
Maxine & Frank Thome, honored by Robert Thome
Norman Timm, honored by Brian & Deanna Mullen
Karen Timmerman, honored by Jason & Bobbie Decker
Henry & Helen Triba, honored by Timothy & Michelle Hallett
Dick Triba, honored by Timothy & Michelle Hallett
Sandy Troia, honored by Jeff & Mary Risavi
Ann Vandebaar, honored by Scott & Jane Long
Ed Verzal, Myrl Verzal, honored by Mike and Linda Verzal
Jim & Mary Visca, honored by Timothy & Michelle Hallett
Everett Walker, honored by Joyce Murphy
Deceased Members of Watkins Family, honored by Ron & Jean Buras
Jim Watsabaugh, honored by Billie Watsabaugh
Eugene & Angela Wedige, honored by Roland & Marilyn Wedige
Rose Weibusch, honored by Billie Watsabaugh
Dean Weibusch, honored by Billie Watsabaugh
Lawrence & Leona Wiehn, honored by Jan Mitchell
Pam Wieseler, honored by Jim & Janet Goodhard
Jim & Sharon Williams, honored by Bob Williams
Richard Wilson, honored by Paul & Kathy Watson
Marge Wittwer, honored by Tom & Jo Davis
Mary Wolk, honored by George & Marilyn Paulchak
Deceased Members of Yindrick Family, honored by Theresa Kuzelka
Curtis Young, honored by Doris Young
Eugene Zoloty, honored by Sonja Zoloty
Emil & Irene Zoucha, honored by Lloyd & Helen Barnes
NeeNee & Grampy, honored by Troy & Jane Brannen



Bunco: April 20th at 7 PM



Our next Ladies Bunco is **Wednesday**, April 20th at 7-9 PM in the Parish Center.

This event is sponsored by the SSM Council of Catholic Women. Ladies must be 21+ to play, cost \$10.00, with a chance to win cash prizes. BYOB (yes, you may bring your own alcohol). Snacks will be provided. Donations to our food pantry will be greatly appreciated. Please come and bring a friend. Questions, contact Brenda Kreber 402-203-5196.



Who Wants to Travel With Father Dave to Ireland?

Father Dave is hosting an informational meeting for anyone who would like to hear about the upcoming trip to Ireland (September 20 - October 2, 2022). Mark Hoffman from Magi Travel will be here to talk about the itinerary and answer any questions. The meeting will be on Wednesday, April 27, at 7:00 p.m., in the Parish Center. More info at <https://cvent.me/5xgzva>

Explore the beauty of the "Emerald Isle" as you travel throughout the north and south. Receive the gift of eloquence when you kiss the Blarney Stone. Spend two nights in a 17th-century castle. Savor a pint of Guinness straight from the source. And more! Accompanied by an excellent local guide, learn about the spiritual and historical significance of Ireland. Let Magi Travel take you on one of their quality, custom tours which have been planned and perfected for over 35 years. Space is limited so sign up today!



Divine Mercy Novena

The Knights of Columbus invite you to participate in the *Divine Mercy Novena* to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, April 23 & 24. The Knights will have Divine Mercy Novena & Chaplet cards available Good Friday following the 3 PM & 7 PM services. A Chaplet to the Divine Mercy will be given prior to the 8:15 AM Mass in the Gathering Space on April 23.

More info at <https://www.praymorenovenas.com/divine-mercy-novena>

From the Sport Club

Fall Sports: Registration for Volleyball and Cross Country this Fall will open within the next few weeks. Be on the lookout for information coming soon. Football registration is open and can be found at stephen.org/sports-club.

Basketball Coordinator: We have an opening for a Basketball Coordinator. Responsibilities of this volunteer role include coordinating tryouts, team creation, and helping arrange practice times. There is also an important meeting for new coordinators with the PAL director in July. If interested or have questions, please contact Corey Guenther at coreyguenther34@gmail.com or 402-206-6488; or John Carda at 402-850-7127 or johncardaatc@gmail.com.

Soccer Coordinator (CYSL): We also looking for a Soccer Coordinator for the CYSL League. Responsibilities of this volunteer role also include coordinating tryouts, team creation, helping arrange practice times. Training and support provided! Interested or have questions, please contact Brent Vodicka at bvodi2020@gmail.com or John Carda at johncardaatc@gmail.com or 402-850-7127.



WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Question:

What are the "fruits" of holy Communion?

Answer:

The Eucharist, like all sacraments, offers its own unique grace. We receive a special share in God's life that helps us in our faith journey. We are given all we need to sustain and nurture our relationship with God. The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life. Everything we are and everything we hope to become is found in this sacrament. It is essential to the life of the church, to each member of the church. Without it, there is no church. The Eucharist is the center of our spiritual life and has enormous effects on our growth, our holiness, and our way of life.

The fruits of holy Communion are the benefits one receives from the sacrament. These fruits of holy Communion are discussed in the catechism in the article on the Eucharist. The primary benefit is union with Christ. We become one with him sacramentally, just as we hope to become one with him for eternity. The Eucharist also separates us from sin, both past and future. It forgives the venial sins of the past and, by the love we receive, protects us from mortal sin in the future. The church community is also unified and strengthened by the Eucharist. It unites us to the poor and offers the pledge of eternal life.

©LPI

Curious about Wills and Estates?

Make plans to attend our next **Planned Giving Seminar** on April 28th at 6 PM in the Parish Center. Justin Hochstein will be the guest speaker to share information about Wills and Estates.

Please RSVP to Catiana Urrutia 402-861-4541 or c.urrutia@stephen.org



Stay up-to-date with Martyr Moms on our Facebook Group

facebook.com/groups/161991407828766

EASTER



Do you receive our weekly Parish News emails?



Our primary communication tool is email using Flocknote. If you are not receiving emails, check your junk folder! Please add mail@flocknote.com to your address book or safe sender list. If the emails are appearing in your junk folder, be sure to mark them as 'Not Spam'. If you have any questions about Flocknote or need to update your email or contact information, please contact Alecia at a.hartwig@stephen.org or 402-861-4515.

From Father Dave and Father Boyd

Dear Saint Stephen the Martyr Parishioners,

Father Boyd shared with you last week (see below) that he has been asked by Archbishop Lucas to move to a new assignment as associate pastor at Saint James Parish. This assignment will be effective on July 1. We are very grateful for his service to our parish this past year. Archbishop has asked Father Zach Tucker to serve as our associate pastor at Saint Stephen. Father Tucker has been a priest for 2 years and has been serving the people at Saint James during this time. You will hear more from Father Tucker when we get closer to July 1.

One of the challenges that comes with being an associate pastor is that you don't get to stay for very long in a parish. It is very difficult to fully enter into the life of a parish and its parishioners, knowing that one day, you will leave and start again in a new place. I know that you will continue to show your support for all priests, especially for those who will be making the transition into new assignments this summer.

These are challenging times for the Universal Church, and for the local Church of the Archdiocese of Omaha. Through the Journey of Faith planning process that has begun, pastors and parishioners will be praying about and discussing how priests can best serve the pastoral needs of the people that have been entrusted to them. Please continue to pray for Archbishop Lucas and the priests of the archdiocese. Please ask the Holy Spirit to guide us, and Mother Mary to enfold us in the mantle of her love.

In Christ,
Father Dave Belt



Beloved Sons and Daughters,

A couple of weeks ago I had a meeting with the Archbishop who asked me to serve at St. James parish in Omaha beginning July 1st. There are several priests being reassigned this year in response to the shortage of priests across the Archdiocese and in preparation for the future.

Even though I will have only been at St. Stephen for one year, I am so grateful to God for this assignment. It has been my privilege to serve with Fr. Belt again and minister to you. I am thankful for St. Stephen's warm welcoming spirit, and I thank you for your kindness and openness to me these past months. You have truly been a gift to me and know that I will miss St. Stephen greatly.

Please remember me and the other priests being reassigned this year in your prayers and always please continue to encourage vocations to the priesthood.

Thank you again.

Father Benjamin Boyd
Associate Pastor

WHITE ELEPHANT BINGO
THURSDAY, APRIL 21st at 6 PM in the Parish Center

Bring a creative, funny wrapped "prize" for the games, bring heavy hors d'oeuvres to share, and BYOB for socialization. Come and join old friends, meet new ones and share a laugh and enjoy the evening!



MASS, COFFEE AND SPEAKERS
WEDNESDAY, MAY 4th at 8:15 AM

Join us for 8:15 Mass followed in the Parish Center by coffee, refreshments and talk by Logan Hepp, Parish Liturgist and Chelsey Young, RE Director. A great way to spend a Wednesday morning!

This Men's and Women's group (age 55+) gathers for fun social events, special projects, and support. More information at stephen.org/primetimers. Email questions to Stephens.PrimeTimers@gmail.com

ADA ABORTION DIALOGUE ACADEMY

CHANGING OUR PRO-CHOICE CULTURE

Learn how ADA volunteers are changing pro-choice minds in as little as 7 minutes!

SUNDAY,
APRIL 24TH
11:30 - 12:30 PM
ST. STEPHEN THE
MARTYR - OMAHA



Event will begin after the 10:30am Mass.

Register online at:
www.abortiondialogueacademy.org/events

TEACHING DISCERNMENT

A 3-day seminar to prepare individuals
The Teaching of Ignatian Discernment
with Fr. Timothy Gallagher

Thursday, May 19th - Saturday, May 21st
7 AM to 5 PM each day

St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic Church
In-person: \$250 per person, includes breakfast and lunch each day plus the content material
Virtual: \$75 per person

Register at stephen.org/teaching-discernment

Brought to you by St. Stephen the Martyr and Discerning Hearts Ministries

Register Early - Space is Limited



Martyr Moms - Easter Egg Hunt - Saturday, April 30th at 10am

Join us in celebrating the Easter season with an egg hunt! Hop on over to the micro soccer fields (just east of the playground) at 10am on Saturday, April 30th. Martyr Moms will be hosting the egg hunt and live rabbits! If your little one has been dreaming of petting a real live rabbit, now's their chance! All ages are welcome to visit the rabbits and ages 10 and under may participate in the egg hunt.

SCAN HERE TO RSVP

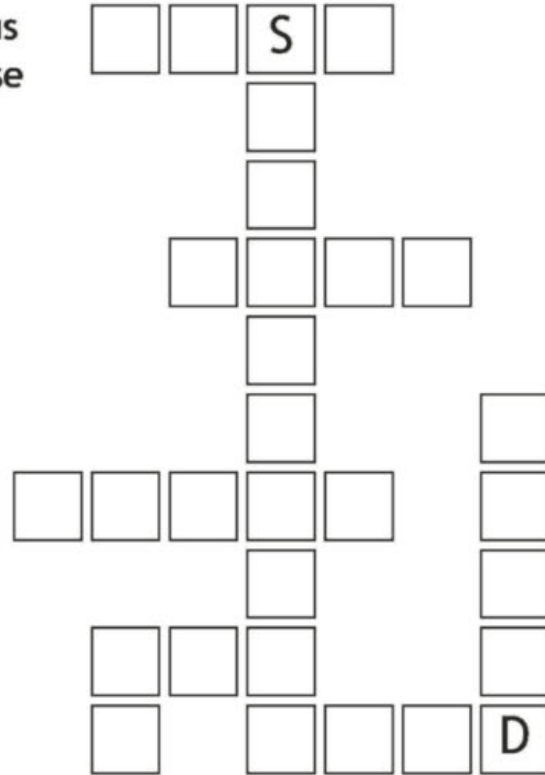


KIDS CORNER

Fit this Gospel message into the empty square.

**READ THE
GOSPEL AND
COMPLETE A
PUZZLE!**

The Scriptures
said Jesus
would rise
to life.



SHARING THE GOSPEL

It was very early in the morning on Sunday. The tomb stone was rolled away. Jesus was gone. All that was left inside were the strips of linen cloth. When John and Peter saw it, they were amazed. They did not understand all the promises the prophets wrote about Jesus yet. However, they knew he was alive. He had risen from the dead!

PRAYER

God, I thank you for bringing Jesus back to life.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Bake Resurrection Cookies with your family tonight. You can find the recipe online at <https://www.aroundmyfamilytable.com/resurrection-cookies/>



WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 17, 2022

- Sunday:** Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 [24]/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Lk 24:1-12 or, Lk 24:13-35
- Monday:** Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Mt 28:8-15
- Tuesday:** Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22/Jn 20:11-18
- Wednesday:** Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:13-35
- Thursday:** Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:35-48
- Friday:** Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a/Jn 21:1-14
- Saturday:** Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21/Mk 16:9-15
- Next Sunday:** Acts 5:12-16/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19/Jn 20:19-31

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 17, 2022

- Sunday:** Easter Sunday
- Monday:** Monday within the Octave of Easter
- Tuesday:** Tuesday within the Octave of Easter
- Wednesday:** Wednesday within the Octave of Easter
- Thursday:** Thursday within the Octave of Easter; St. Anselm, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Friday:** Friday within the Octave of Easter; Earth Day
- Saturday:** Saturday within the Octave of Easter; St. George, Martyr; St. Adalbert, Bishop and Martyr
- Next Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy); St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

Alleluia, Christ is risen! What a glorious and holy day. The resurrection of Christ speaks of freedom, new life, restored faith and enduring, unconditional love. The huge stone, separating death and life, has been moved, allowing God's radiant power to usher in eternal life. When we see the truth of Christ's resurrection through eyes of love, we see the fullness of timeless beauty, truth, and wonder revealed. The emptiness of the tomb is filled with the eternity of love. We have many stones and boulders blocking the path to freedom, love, and joy. They are often too big for us to move, and they cripple us. We can take a leap of faith today and believe with all our heart, mind, and soul that there is much more than can be seen by the naked eye. There is something very holy, sacred, and eternal stirring within us. We want to live forever! Christ's resurrection brings us joy and allows us to see ourselves as we are meant to be seen, as God's children destined for glory!

How Can We Pray for YOU?

You are not alone! St. Stephen the Martyr has prayer warriors who are ready to pray for YOUR intention! God has given us this incredible gift to intercede on behalf of others through prayer and thanksgiving! Submit your prayer request to be shared with our Prayer Line Ministry at stephen.org/prayer-line or call Beth Wetgen at (402) 669-4793.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 16—Easter Vigil

8:30 pm SI St. Stephen parishioners (DB)

Sunday, April 17 — Easter Sunday

7:30 am † Lewis Storm (BB)
9:00 am † Marie Sempek (DB)
9:05 am † Bill Wills (BB; gym)
10:30 am † Karen Liessner Lamoreaux (DB)
10:35 am † Mick Beacom (DH; gym)
6:00 pm SI Laura Bogue (DH)

Monday, April 18

6:30 am † Joe Fenton (BB)
8:15 am † Joe Tiesi (BB)

Tuesday, April 19

6:30 am † Elias Rojas (DB)
8:15 am † Jerome & Sally Promes,
Cy Promes (BB)

Wednesday, April 20

6:30 am † Harry & Diane Korus (DB)
8:15 am † Ukrainians who have die as the result
of war (BB)

Thursday, April 21

6:30 am † Elias Rojas (DB)
8:15 am † Warren Wills (BB)

Friday, April 22

6:30 am SI Terry & Marie Zrust (DB)
8:15 am † Linda DeHart (BB)

Saturday, April 23

8:15 am SI Adaku Esther Gninefou (DB)
5:00 pm † Erin Doll (BB)

Sunday, April 24

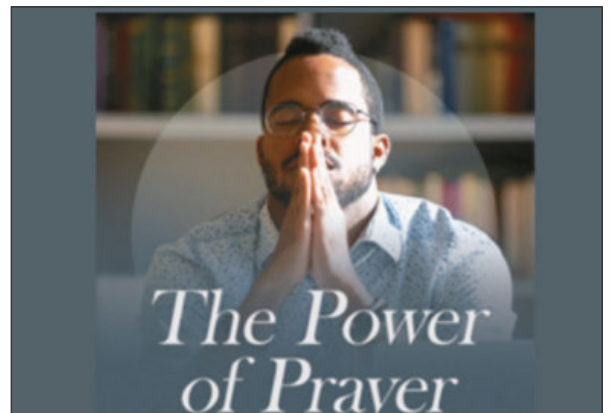
7:30 am SI St. Stephen parishioners (DB)
9:00 am † Russ Mitchell (DB)
10:30 am † Luis Alfredo Gutierrez Puentes (BB)
6:00 pm † Pete Hill (BB)

SI = Special Intention † = Repose of the Soul
DB=Fr. Dave Belt; BB=Fr. Ben Boyd; DH=Fr. Dennis Hanneman;
Please note: Priest schedule subject to changes

**If you'd like to reserve a Mass Intention, please contact Melissa in the parish office at m.kane@stephen.org or 402-896-9675.*



Parishioners who are sick/injured/healing:
Bob Jaeck, Husband of Nancy Major-Jaek



News from the Community

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS – MASS, MEETING & MIXER

The Serra Club of West Omaha invites you to join us for Holy Mass on Monday, April 18, at 5:30 PM at the JP II Newman Center, 1221 S. 71st Street in Omaha, to pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and consecrated religious life within the Archdiocese of Omaha. Mass will be celebrated by Rev. Dan Andrews, Director and Pastor of the JP II Newman Center, assisted by Rev. Frank Baumert, Chaplain of the Serra Club of West Omaha. Following Mass, we will enjoy a one-hour Meeting & Mixer. Our speaker at the meeting will be Rev. Padraic Stack, Associate Pastor of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Elkhorn. Light refreshments, appetizers, pizza, and sweet treats will be provided. All are welcome! To ensure we have enough food, kindly RSVP: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C4FA9AC22A7FD0-serra10>
For questions, contact John Lingo, Serra VP, 402-290-4670 or John@JLingoLaw.com
Learn more at serrawestomaha.org.

BOYS TOWN BOOSTER BANQUET

Boys Town will be holding their annual Booster Banquet on April 26th at 6pm at Embassy Suites La Vista. This family friendly sports banquet features Purple Heart Recipient and Paralympian, Melissa Stockwell. Go to www.boystown.org/boosters for more information.

CATHOLIC BUSINESS GROUP ANNUAL LEADING WITH FAITH LUNCHEON

Thursday, April 28, from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm, at Champions Club, 138 and Eagle Run Drive, Omaha. This year's event will consist of a social, luncheon and talk by the keynote speaker, Joe Rutten. Mr. Rutten is the Director of Benedictine Leadership Institute and a professor of Theology at Mount Marty University in Yankton SD. Joe's presentation is entitled: Faith, Principals and Business Practices: Taking Sunday into Monday. Cost is \$35 per person. Registrations can be made at cpbcomaha.org
The Catholic Business Group places much value on their Leading with Faith Luncheon because it affirms to our members and guests that we are here to share our Catholic faith in the world, and we are here to work to affirm others along that path.

REGINA CAELI ACADEMY- ACCEPTING ENROLLMENT APPLICATIONS FOR 2022-23!

Regina Caeli is a private, independent, University-Style Hybrid® operating in the Catholic tradition. Preschool - 12th grade students attend classical academic and extracurricular classes two days a week, and homeschool the remaining days following the plans provided by RCA. To learn more, contact our admissions office at admissions@rcahybrid.org or 470.239.0259.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY DEVOTION AT CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC CHURCH

654 So. 86th St. Omaha, NE (Livestreamed viewing via ctkomaha.org/divinemercy)

Sunday, April 24th, 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. **Theme: Accepting God's Mercy**

- David Woloszyn, parishioner of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church – *From Crime to Christ*
 - Eucharistic Procession, Adoration, Benediction, Chaplet/Litany of Divine Mercy
 - Dale Bauermeister – *Suffering, Faith, and Forgiveness*
 - Father Michael Voithofer, Archdiocesan Priest/ Founder of Ablaze Worship Ministry
 - Holy Mass with Archbishop Emeritus Elden Francis Curtiss as celebrant/homilist
- Please call (402) 498-9871 for more information

TAI CHI AT ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR

Tai Chi for Balance is Mondays and Thursdays in the Parish Center, 9:30-10:15 AM
Beginners welcome. Please contact Colleen Simonsen 402-689-5420 for further info.

ROMAN FORUM TOAST MASTERS

The next Roman Forum meeting will be on Wednesday, April 20 from 11:30 AM-12:30 PM in the Parish Center. Guest speaker is Deacon Ken Broz to share about his recent trip to Medjugorje. Questions? Contact Tom Johnson at tomcherij@msn.com.

FLAMING HOOPS BASKETBALL CAMP

for boys and girls in grades 1-8 (2022/2023 grade level) and hosted by Mrs. Kathy Jones, former St. Stephen PE teacher.

- Tuesday, May 31 – Friday, June 3
8:30 – 10:30 AM (Grades 1-3)
10:45 AM – 12:45 PM (Grades 4-8)
- For more information and to register go to: <https://sites.google.com/view/flaming-hoops-basketball-camp>
- Questions? Contact Kathy Jones, kjonesflaminghoops@gmail.com

Kathy Jones, a former teacher at St. Stephen the Martyr, has been active in basketball for many years. She began her career as a player at Kansas State University, and after graduating, she took a position as the Assistant Women's Basketball Coach at the University of Missouri. She continued her collegiate coaching as an assistant coach at Memphis University, as well as coaching AAU basketball.



Flaming Hoops
Basketball Camp



Registration for LIVE metro-wide
Seeking Truth Catholic Bible Study
opened on April 15th.

Register at www.SeekingTRUTH.net

This is an International Catholic Bible Study that originated in Omaha, NE. Deacon Steve and Sharon Doran are its founders at the invitation of the Archdiocese of Omaha.

This fall the study will cover the Gospel of Mark. Please join us and see how scripture comes alive in your own life and situation. All are welcome! If you've never done a bible study, this one's for you!

Study begins Sept 22 but you must register now. Meetings are on Thursday afternoon and evenings.

Or take a free online study or gather some friends or family and do one together.

More info at
website: www.SeekingTRUTH.net



Join the Network-Wide Bible Study!
Through a partnership with Jeff Cavins and Ascension Press, Spirit Catholic Radio brings you The Great Adventure Bible Study – 16 programs; 3 studies a week; 2 times to listen to each! Beginning Easter week, April 19th, gather your bible study group together and follow along on the adventure! Learn how the people, places, and events of the Bible all come together to reveal the remarkable story of our faith. Find program details and discounted study materials at spiritcatholicradio.com/adventure.

Not Yet a Parishioner?

Register at stephen.org. Click on "Become a Parishioner" in the footer.

Contact Adam Ybarra at 402-861-4507 or a.ybarra@stephen.org with any questions and to chat about ways we can help you grow closer to Christ!

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