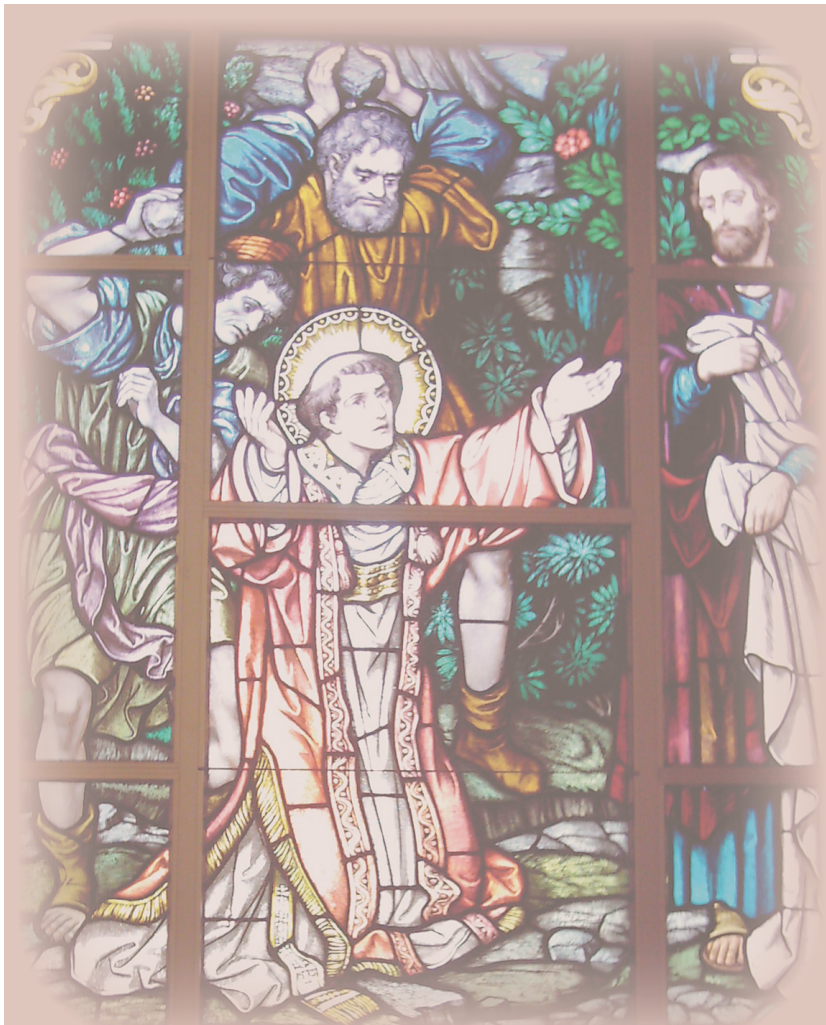


St. Stephen Church

**CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE (CCD):**

Thursday, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Niles Intermediate School
CCD Coordinator: Mary Ann McMahon – 330-544-4766

NEW PARISHIONERS: Welcome! Please register at once.

MOVING: Notify the Rectory.

QUESTIONS? BULLETIN NEWS: Bulletin deadline –
Tuesday before 4:00 p.m. Call the Rectory.

CHURCH SUPPORT: The weekly use of your envelopes with a donation justly related to your means, fulfills the obligation of church support. It also is one indication of your regular attendance at Mass, and an expression of your appreciation to God for what has been given to you.

129 West Park Avenue
Niles, Ohio
44446

Rev. Steven Agostino,
Pastor

Deacon Michael Hanshaw

MASS SCHEDULE:**Sunday Obligation:**

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. at Mount Carmel
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. at St. Stephen
Sunday: 11:00 a.m. at Mount Carmel

Holy Days: Consult Bulletin.

Weekdays: Consult Bulletin.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Arrangements must be made at the Rectory and the instruction class must be attended by the parents.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

To be arranged at the Rectory six months in advance of the wedding.

HOSPITAL CALLS:

When a member of your family is taken to the hospital, notify the Rectory.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Rectory: 330-652-4396

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

ORGANIST:

Meg Daniluk

E-MAIL:

churchofsaintstephen@yahoo.com

WEB SITE:

www.ststephenchurchniles.com

MISSION STATEMENT:

We are St. Stephen Church in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Youngstown. Since 1853, we have served the community of Niles. Through our Baptism, we are called to build our lives in the image of Christ through worship and prayer, in Word and Eucharist. Together we draw others close to God through our service, charity and evangelization. In a spirit of stewardship, we share our time, talent and treasure with the faith community and for future generations.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**SUNDAY, JANUARY 21st – THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

9:00 a.m. **EDWARD SCOTT** by Daughter, Lola
 11:00 a.m. at Mt. Carmel

MONDAY, JANUARY 22nd

8:30 a.m. at Mt. Carmel

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23rd

8:30 a.m. **JOAN M. DRAGOS** by Bill & Loretta Bacho

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24th

8:30 a.m. at Mt. Carmel

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25th

8:30 a.m. **PHIL ANNARELLA** by Chris & Bonnie Shaker

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26th

8:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27th

4:00 p.m. at Mt. Carmel

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28th – FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 a.m. **MARY NICHOLAS – 4th ANNIVERSARY**
 by Family
 11:00 a.m. at Mt. Carmel

THEME: JESUS IS CALLING US TODAY.

Jesus is calling *us* today. Maybe He is calling us to drop something we have been clinging to. Maybe He is calling us to lay down our weeping or rejoicing, to move into something new. Maybe He is calling us to listen. In the precious time we give to Him, He will give us all we need to answer His call, big or small.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Jonah answers God's call to preach in Nineveh and the city repents. In the second reading, Saint Paul urges the Corinthians to act as if *time is running out*. The Gospel tells of the beginning of Jesus' ministry, as He calls the Galileans to repent and believe in the Gospel. We also hear of the call of James, John, Andrew, and Simon.

**ETERNAL FLAME INTENTIONS
WEEK OF JANUARY 21st**

**IN MEMORY OF
MARY ANN PEKAROVIC**
 by Elaine Pekarovic

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

Daily Masses will be cancelled any time there is a school cancellation or two-hour delay for Niles City Schools. Father Ziegler is driving in from Canfield and we want to keep him safe!

**MANY THANKS!!**

Due to early publication deadlines during the holidays, our thank you is coming a little late this year, but still sincere!

To all those who volunteered during this busy time of year to decorate (and undecorate) the church for our Christmas celebration, as always, the church looked beautiful!

To our organists and choir members for all the extra hours of practice to make sure our Christmas liturgy was meaningful and inspiring.

To our Liturgy committee and our sacristans for all the extra work this season requires.

For our Bereavement committee for all the comfort they offer in the name of St. Stephen Parish to our fellow parishioners in their times of sorrow throughout the year.

To Father Tom Ziegler, who graciously shares his "retirement" to allow us to celebrate Mass on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

To Father Agostino, for being our pastor as well as at Mt. Carmel. We appreciate how difficult that must be and we offer him our heartfelt thanks for all he does for us.

Finally, to all our St. Stephen family members for their generosity to their parish during the year and for always keeping our beloved parish in their prayers.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE – SUNDAY, JANUARY 28TH

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Sacristan | JACQUIE WHETSTONE |
| Lector | CHARLENE RABEL |
| Eucharistic Minister of Bread | JACQUIE WHETSTONE |
| Eucharistic Ministers of Cup | SHERRIE SYLVESTER JOHN CULLIVAN |
| Altar Server | JOHN WILSON |
| Greeters | JEFF BURKE HUGH KIELEY |



PRAYER LIST We would like to offer everyone the opportunity to pray for our fellow parishioners and friends who are ill or in need of prayer for any reason. If you would like to add someone to the list, please call the rectory and leave a message and we will add the requested person. Please remember the following in

your prayers: **Dorothy Bianco, Don Donnelly, Alida Lendvay, Mary Beth Havasi, Janet Kandrak, Sue Kopetsky, John Wilson, Kathy DeCristofaro, Mitzi Malvasi, Lou Lukz, Jennifer Cable, Michelle Howard, Jo Medovich, Kevin Grafton, Mary Catherine Freel, Kara Stanford, June Dudinec, Arlene Wilson, Mary Miller, Bob Leonard, Mike Kozak, Bob Adler, Joe Smaltz, Sandy LaMonica, Karen & Richard Slanina & Family, Carri R., Pat Hines, Bill Smith, Debbie Kovell, Lois DiFrancesco, Jeff Burke, Jack DiTunno, Tammy C., Faith Harnack, Paul Lapolla, Jim Orsine, Connie Hake, Michael Edward Thompson, Pat Spisak, Chuck Durig, Tucker Paul Clark, Jim & Jo Villeco, Sr., Jim Nitzsky, Martha Williams, Marie Perfette, Denise Burke, Sue Mollis, Chuck & Bonnie Jorza, Connie Brandt, Rachel Tarr, Steve & Dee Cvengros, Rita Mae Dodasovich, Al Conti, Rosalie McGinnis, Dick Bedio, Gavin Lingle, Peg McGinnis, Larry Batovsky, Sr., Steven Medovich, Mary Jane Tripodi, Phil C., Cathy Marino, Roberta Williams, Mary Jane Hileman, Todd Beedy, Angela Marzullo, John Daubner, Father Murphy, Peter Ford, Pat Sylvester Sr., Hudson Joseph (Janice Rayle's 4-year-old grandson), Nanette Ball, Rick Cool, and all those who suffer any illness, especially those who have no one to pray for them.**



As part of the **PARISH YEAR OF EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL**, St. Stephen will host an hour of Adoration on Thursdays following the 8:30 a.m. Mass until 10:00 a.m. Please join us to honor and glorify God for His most perfect gift to us. The Blessed Sacrament is never to be left alone during this time so if it is difficult for you to be here for 8:30 a.m. Mass, please consider coming between 9:00-10:00 a.m. for a visit.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

January 14, 2024
 Parish Goal: \$4,700.00 per Sunday
 Attendance Sunday: 152
 Envelopes: 88

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| SUNDAY ENVELOPES | \$ 3,236.00 |
| MAINTENANCE | \$ 105.00 |
| CEMETERY | \$ 225.00 |
| SOLEMNITY OF MARY | \$ 15.00 |
| CHURCH OVERSEAS | \$ 70.00 |
| DIOCESAN COMMUNICATION FUND | \$ 85.00 |
| INITIAL OFFERING | \$ 90.00 |

**LUCK OF THE IRISH 2024 – MARCH 16th, 2024**

We invite all visitors to view the St. Stephen Parish website listed on the bulletin cover where there will be upcoming information about our annual Luck of the Irish event on March 16, 2024. Luck of the Irish is St. Stephen's only fundraising event, and we ask for your support, whether you are a current parishioner or a visitor to our parish. Tickets are available and can be purchased online or by calling the rectory. We will be selling tickets after Mass this weekend. *Thank you for supporting our only parish fundraiser.*

STEWARDSHIP – 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**“FOLLOW ME AND I WILL MAKE YOU FISHERS OF MEN.”**

– Mark 1:17

Jesus' call to “follow me” is a call to all Christians! The call is in the here and now, in our present circumstances, not when we think we are “ready” or have everything in order. Good stewardship of our God-given gifts means that things aren't always going to go according to our schedule, but that God has a much better plan in store for each of us.

OTHER NEWS**NILES COMMUNITY SERVICES FOOD COLLECTION – CANNED STEW OR CHILI**

COMMUNITY SUPPERS – NONE SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY. Suppers are free and open to the public on Thursday from 4:45-5:30 p.m.



Lord Jesus Christ, You are the true King of peace. In You alone is found freedom. Please free our world from conflict, especially in the Middle East and Ukraine. Bring unity to troubled nations. Let Your glorious peace reign in every heart. Dispel all darkness and evil. Protect the dignity of every human life. Replace hatred with Your love. Give wisdom to world leaders. Free them from selfish ambition. Eliminate all violence and war. Glorious Virgin Mary, Saint Michael the Archangel, every angel, and saint: Please pray for peace. Pray for unity amongst nations. Pray for unity amongst all people. Pray for the most vulnerable. Pray for those suffering. Pray for the fearful. Pray for those most in need. Pray for us all. Jesus, Son of the Living God, have mercy on us. Jesus, hear our prayers. Jesus, I trust in You! Amen.

A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

It must have been difficult for Zebedee to watch his sons walk away and follow Jesus. It was the end of “Zebedee and Sons Fishing, Inc.” Our children are never ours. They are only on loan to us. We raise them to let them go.



POVERTY AWARENESS MONTH/WARM HEARTS FOR WARM HOMES CAMPAIGN (formerly Keep the Kids Warm). Thank you to all who supported this campaign last weekend in our second collection. Please visit www.ccdoy.org to learn more or to make a gift online; give today in your parish or mail checks to: Catholic Charities, 144 West Wood Street, Youngstown, Ohio 44503. Thank you for your generosity.

**CALL FOR RECIPES!**

The Catholic Echo magazine would like to feature your favorite recipes in an upcoming print edition! All recipes are welcome, but the editor will likely choose to feature more common recipes, as *Echo* staff need to find photos to accompany the entries. For more information or to submit a recipe, email catholicecho@youngstowndiocese.org.

**9 DAYS FOR LIFE****CONTINUES THROUGH JANUARY 24**

9 Days for Life, the U.S. bishops' annual Novena surrounding the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children, will take place January 16-24. Participants can sign up for daily emails or text messages in English at www.9daysforlife.com

OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL**“THAT’S AMORE” – ITALIAN NIGHT**

That's Amore
 Enjoy a night of great food, dancing, and live music by the Avant Italian Band. *Saturday, February 17th, 2024, 6:00-10:00 p.m.* Ciminero's Banquet Center. Doors will open PROMPTLY at 5:30 p.m. – \$65.00 per person. Basket Raffles, 50/50 Raffle, St. Joseph Cookie Table, BYOB – All set ups will be provided. Tickets are available at the Mt. Carmel Parish Office during the week and will also be sold after the weekend Masses.

CHURCH OVERSEAS COMBINED COLLECTION

Catholics around the country have always responded to the needs of people everywhere. Next weekend, the Diocese of Youngstown will hold the Church Overseas Combined Collection in order to assist the Church in its ministries throughout the world. This combined collection supports four major overseas services: Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Holy Father/Peter's Pence, the Church in Central and Eastern Europe, and the Church in Latin America. Please remember, as we move toward the season of Lent, to support these important programs of charity in the Church. **Our second collection next weekend will support the Church Overseas Collection.**

**HAVE YOU CONSIDERED A CATHOLIC EDUCATION FOR YOUR CHILDREN?**

There are many new opportunities for considerable financial assistance available. **ST. ROSE SCHOOL**, 61 E. Main Street, Girard, invites you to our open house **NEXT SUNDAY**, January 28 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend Mass at 11:00 a.m. followed by a coffee and donut social. Tour the school, meet the faculty and staff, find out about our many financial aid opportunities. Learn about our rigorous curriculum in our Catholic faith with many co-curricular and extracurricular opportunities. Call 330-545-1163 or visit www.saintrosecatholicsschool.com for more information.

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