

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, MARCH 10th –
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

9:00 a.m. **MARGUERITE KOVACH**
by Loretta & Ron McHenry
11:00 a.m. at Mt. Carmel



MONDAY, MARCH 11th

8:30 a.m. at Mt. Carmel

TUESDAY, MARCH 12th

8:30 a.m. **MARCELLA BURGESS** by Lloyd Family

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13th

8:30 a.m. at Mt. Carmel

THURSDAY, MARCH 14th

8:30 a.m. **FRANK E. STOUT** by Jim & Nancy Simpson

FRIDAY, MARCH 15th

3:00 p.m. STATIONS at St. Stephen
7:00 p.m. STATIONS at Mt. Carmel



SATURDAY, MARCH 16th

9:00-10:00 a.m. CONFESSIONS at St. Stephen
4:00 p.m. at Mt. Carmel

SUNDAY, MARCH 17th –
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

9:00 a.m. **ANNE MISEL**
~ 1ST ANNIVERSARY
11:00 a.m. at Mt. Carmel

THEME : OFFER GIFTS OF PRAYER, FASTING, AND ALMSGIVING
OUT OF LOVE AND GRATITUDE TO OUR MERCIFUL GOD.

We offer our humble gifts of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving to God out of gratitude. We recognize that all is gift. God has poured out His grace upon us. We joyfully draw near to the giver of all good gifts in the spiritual practices we take up in this season.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The first reading chronicles the fall of Jerusalem because of the people's unfaithfulness, and the fulfillment of the prophecies through Cyrus, king of Persia. In his Letter to the Ephesians, Paul speaks of the richness of God's mercy and *the immeasurable riches of His grace*. The Gospel tells of Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus and the immense love God has for us.

ETERNAL FLAME INTENTION
WEEK OF MARCH 10TH

IN MEMORY OF ANNE MISEL
1ST ANNIVERSARY
by Rick



REST IN PEACE

Our sympathy and prayers for and comfort are extended to the family and friends of **Anna Hoover** and **Evelyn Hannon (sister of Jane Tock)**, who died last week. May they rest in eternal peace.



SATURDAY LENTEN CONFESSION SCHEDULE
MARCH 16 ST. STEPHEN 9:00-10:00 a.m.



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
continues 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 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. for a visit.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP
March 3, 2024

Parish Goal: \$4,700.00 per Sunday
Attendance Sunday: 161
Envelopes: 111

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| SUNDAY ENVELOPES | \$ 3,801.00 |
| MAINTENANCE | \$ 212.00 |
| CEMETERY | \$ 43.00 |
| EASTER | \$ 80.00 |
| EASTER FLOWERS | \$ 120.00 |
| HOLY LAND | \$ 10.00 |

The
Season
of
Lent



LENTEN REGULATIONS

All Catholics are encouraged to participate in the traditional Lenten practice of prayer, sacrifice, and almsgiving. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of **fast and abstinence** – one full meal and two smaller meals for persons 18 through 59 years of age; no meat for persons 14 years and older. All Fridays during Lent are days of **abstinence** – no meat for persons 14 years and older. There is no obligation to fast during the weekdays of Lent; however, voluntary acts of self-denial are encouraged.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE
SUNDAY, MARCH 17TH

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Sacristan | JEFF BURKE |
| Lector | FRANK DILLON |
| Eucharistic Minister of Bread | MARY KAY NICHOLAS |
| Eucharistic Ministers of Cup | JULIE ABRAHAM/ SHERRIE SYLVESTER |
| Altar Server | SOPHIA GEARHART |
| Greeters | ANNA MARIE & BOB GRANNY |

ATTENTION: LAY MINISTERS

YOU ARE REMINDED TO PLEASE CHECK IN WITH THE SACRISTAN 20 MINUTES BEFORE MASS TO LET THEM KNOW YOU ARE THERE FOR YOUR ASSIGNMENT. THANK YOU.

LUCK OF THE IRISH 2024 ~ THIS FRIDAY ~
MARCH 16, 2024

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Deadline to appear in the program or to reserve a table is **TUESDAY!**

TICKETS ON SALE NOW ~ AFTER MASS

DIOCESAN-WIDE SURVEY: St. Stephen Parish invites you to participate in a parish and diocesan-wide survey. St. Stephen, along with other parishes in the diocese, are being asked to participate in a diocesan sponsored parish survey about discipleship conducted by the Catholic Leadership Institute. We ask that everyone in a registered parish household 18 years of age or older take a 10-15 minute online survey. The survey is available now through March 27, 2024, and asks you to reflect on your spiritual growth and enables you to provide feedback on our parish's efforts to help you grow. All responses will be confidential, and the parish will only receive information from the diocese about the community as a whole. We are trying to get the highest response rate possible. This information will be invaluable to our parish and our various ministries as we plan for the future and strive to be the best disciples we can be. We will receive the results this coming spring/summer. Please take the time to share your feedback as it is very important to our parish and our community. The link to take the survey is <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/b6dc85>. Thank you for your input and support.

25TH, 40TH, 50TH AND OVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The Diocese of Youngstown is sponsoring a **Wedding Anniversary Celebration** on **Sunday, May 5, 2:00 p.m. at St. Columba Cathedral in Youngstown**, honoring couples observing their 25th, 40th, 50th and over wedding anniversaries in 2024.

The Wedding Anniversary Celebration will include Mass with the Most Reverend David J. Bonnar, Bishop of Youngstown, renewal of marriage vows, a personalized certificate for each couple and a light reception for the couple and their families in the cathedral hall. Couples must make reservations in advance by contacting their parish office as soon as possible, but **no later than March 27**. Limited spaces are available.



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, 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, 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, Roberta Williams, Mary Jane Hileman, Todd Beedy, John Daubner, Father Murphy, Peter Ford, Pat Sylvester, Sr., Hudson Joseph (Janice Rayle's 2-year old grandson), Nanette Ball, Rick Cool, Clair Darby Camp, Bridget Darby Flores, Eli Flores, Paul Saban and all those who suffer any illness, especially those who have no one to pray for them.**



2024 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

Jesus says in today's Gospel that *"Whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God"* (John 3:21). Our parish wants to do everything in the light, so hungry souls can see Jesus living through us. Without His light, souls who need Jesus can't see that He lives in our parish, in

our tabernacle. Already more than halfway through Lent, the Church bids us rejoice! Laetare Sunday is a day of light. Jesus gave purpose and power to human suffering. *"In the Lord your labor is not in vain"* (1 Corinthians 15:58). When you support our Annual Diocesan Appeal, you help your neighbors find His light in the darkness and hope when it's needed most. May God be with you. **As of March 1, 48 St. Stephen families have pledged \$10,148.00 of our \$26,900.00 goal.**

NILES INTERFAITH BANQUET

The Niles Interfaith Committee will hold its annual scholarship award brunch on April 7 at Ciminero's. Doors will be open at 12:30 p.m. and brunch will be at 1:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20.00 and are available at the rectory. High School Seniors who would like to apply for the Thomas Murphy Memorial Scholarship are invited to pick up an application at the rectory. **Forms must be returned to our rectory by March 13** because forms have to be delivered to the committee by March 15. None will be accepted after this date. The parish will pay for the seniors' meals.

OTHER NEWS



NILES COMMUNITY SERVICES FOOD COLLECTION ~ CANNED FRUIT

COMMUNITY SUPPERS – MARCH
NILES FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – 608 North Crandon, Niles.
Suppers are free and open to the public on Thursdays from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.



FISH DINNERS AT MOUNT CARMEL, Fridays through March 22 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. for dine-in or carry-out. Baked or fried fish \$13.00 for adults, Children 12 and under \$9.00.

COCKEY CARES PINT PROGRAM: From now until March 31st, 100% of the proceeds from pints of Love Thy Neighbor (fresh strawberry puree super premium ice cream with chocolate covered strawberries, brownies and dark chocolate chunks) sold at our scoop shop and restaurant (1805 Parkman Road NW, Warren) will be donated to St. Vincent de Paul to help their mission: bring hope to those in need so they may achieve stability and move toward self-sufficiency. A member of our St. Vincent de Paul Society tried it and highly recommends it! Do something sweet for yourself...and your neighbor!



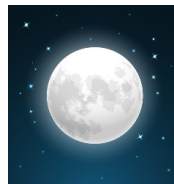
JFK "JUST FOR KICKS" AUCTION

Plans for the 34th Annual John F. Kennedy Catholic School "Just For Kicks" Live and Silent Auction are in full swing! The event will be held on Saturday, March 23, 2024 at the Eastwood Event Centre. Tickets are \$90.00 and include an open bar; doors open at 6:00 p.m. This evening features a live and silent auction, raffles, and one-of-a-kind experiences and gift items. "Just For Kicks" is the premier fundraiser for Catholic Education in Trumbull County and all proceeds directly benefit our students, grades K-12. Please consider joining us and take a moment to view our items up for bid. Complete details are in our Giving Center: <http://bidpal.net/jfk2024> or call 330-369-1804, ext. 1105 for more information.

COME SOAR WITH US! John F. Kennedy Catholic School Lower Campus will host a Meet + Greet for families with incoming students in grades K-5 on Friday, March 22nd at 2:15 p.m. Come and learn about our academics, environment, generous tuition assistance for all Ohio students, and more! Meet + Greet will be held at our Lower Campus, 3000 Reeves Road, Warren, Ohio 44483. Families are asked to preregister by calling or emailing Mrs. Judi LaPolla, Director of Admissions, at 330-369-1804, or jlapolla@warrenjfk.com. We can't wait to meet you!

NILES COMMUNITY SERVICES PRESENTS THE FULL MOON ALL-STARS DINNER-DANCE FRIDAY, APRIL 5th, 2024

~ CASUAL DRESS ~
~ CIMINERO'S BANQUET CENTER ~



123 N. Main Street, Niles, OH -
Doors Open & Buffet ~ 5:30 p.m. ~

Includes Pasta, Chicken, Salad, and Cash Bar. **BAND PERFORMANCE:** Kicks off at 6:30 p.m. featuring "THE SHADOWS" "THE HOLES IN THE ROAD" "MOM'S APPLE PIE" TICKETS \$30.00 each, available at The Record Connection, Ciminero's, or Niles Community Services. All proceeds benefit NILES COMMUNITY SERVICES. For more information, call NCS at 330-652-6412.

EASTER KOLACHI SALE ~ ST. JAMES HALL OF ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON PARISH

Friday, March 15, 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m. Nut, apricot, poppyseed, lekvar (prune) \$12.00 Each
Preorder Monday & Tuesday, 330-393-0781. **NO CASH.**

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