

St. Stephen Deacon & Martyr

We are a Stewardship Parish.



FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



**Your
light
must
shine**

FEBRUARY 5, 2017

**before others, that they may
see your good deeds and
glorify your heavenly Father.**

Matthew 5:16

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Parish Mission

St. Stephen is a Catholic community of faith striving to witness to the Gospel. Our Baptism and Confirmation call us to bring Christ's Love to our families, our work places, and our community. Grateful for God's gifts, we seek to nurture those gifts and to give back to the Lord by sharing our time, talent, and material treasure. In all of our parish activities we seek to develop a personal relationship with the Lord who directs our lives and a vision that sees the world with the eyes of Christ and that leads to a commitment to justice. We seek a sense of unity in Christ that leads us to be an open and welcoming people and a sense of joy in being graced by the gifts of God's love.

Our Staff

Rev. James Finno, Pastor

Rev. Grzegorz Warmuz, Associate Pastor

Deacons: Robert Conlin Joseph Stalcup
William Engler Pete Van Merkestyn
Chuck McFarland Kenneth Zawadzki
William Schultz

Karen Opyd, Administrative Assistant to Pastor

Mark Gorka, Music Minister

Kyle Groves, Youth/Young Adult Minister

Dave Prete, Maintenance Director

Parish Office

Address: 17500 S. 84th Avenue, Tinley Park, IL 60487

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 8:30am-8pm; Fri 8:30am-6pm;
Sat Noon-5pm; *Closed Mon-Friday from 12:30-1pm.*

Office Phone: 708.342.2400

Office Fax: 708.342.1545

Website: www.ststephentinley.com

Email: info@ststephentinley.com

Bulletins: Email articles to Ron@ststephentinley.com by noon on Wednesday 11 days prior to bulletin's publication date.

Religious Education Office

Director of Religious Education—Sandi Morgan

Assoc. Director of Religious Education—Leslie Krauledis

Admin. Assistant for Religious Education—Joann Buryj

Religious Education Secretary—Patti Parker

Phone: 708.342.1544

Our Parish School—Cardinal Bernardin

Principal—Ms. Mary Iannucilli

Address: 9250 W. 167th Street Orland Hills, IL 60487

School Phone: 708.403.6525 **School Fax:** 708.403.8621

Website: cjbsschool.org **Email:** info@cjbsschool.org

For those in need...

- Counseling services are available at St. Stephen through the Holbrook Counseling Center of Catholic Charities. Appointments with our parish counselor Michele L. Nowak, LCPC, can be made at 312-655-7725.
- For crisis counseling and veteran concerns, please contact Deacon Pete Van Merkestyn at the parish office.
- For parishioners struggling and in need of help, please contact St. Stephen's St. Vincent de Paul ministry through the parish office.
- For those seeking help through a twelve-step program, St. Stephen offers English and Polish support groups.

Mass Times and Sacraments

Daily Mass—Monday through Saturday at 8am

Mass of Anticipation—Saturday at 5pm

Sunday Masses—7:00am, 8:30am, 10:00am, 11:30 am, and 6:15 pm in English; 1:00pm in Polish

Baptisms are celebrated every Sunday at 3pm in English and 1pm in Polish. Please contact Deacon Ken in the parish office for the necessary preparations.

Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on Saturdays from 8:45am—9:30am in the church or by appointment.

Funerals can be arranged with the parish office.

Marriages—St. Stephen Parish welcomes the celebration of the weddings of both registered parishioners and the children of registered parishioners. Information is available from one of the priests or deacons.

Communion for the sick, elderly, handicapped, or homebound parishioners can be arranged by calling Fr. Greg

Stewardship: Sharing Our Treasure

Thank you for your continued Stewardship in support of St. Stephen. Please remember that our monthly mortgage payment to the Archdiocese of \$41,500 is paid from our monthly collections.

Please consider making electronic donations through Byline Bank or through Give Central. Electronic and online donations can be scheduled at the frequency you choose. For more information, please go to our website www.ststephentinley.com and click on the Stewardship tab. Also, please consider remembering your parish when preparing your will.

Collections For the Week of 01-22-2017

Regular	\$19,808.00
Kids	\$62.75
Sharing	\$346.00
Christmas	\$250.00
Holy Mother of God	\$30.00
Candles	\$377.00
Catholic School Week	\$10.00

Sunday and Holy Day Collections

	<u>Dec. 2016</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Actual	\$113,190	\$704,371
Budget	\$112,775	\$744,750
Surplus/(Shortfall)	\$415	(\$40,379)

From Our Pastor

Dear People of St. Stephen,

It has been a gloomy past month. The light of the sun has been absent on most days. On the few days when we had sunshine, it seems that I and many others I met were in a brighter mood. It's interesting that in the gospel this Sunday Jesus calls His disciples – the first disciples and us – to be the light of the world. As I reflect on this passage, I find it challenging to me and to all of us. How can I be the light of the world? The light that Jesus talks about is the Lord's love – the love and care that can brighten the gloominess that often comes into human life. My own spirit is often lifted by people whose kindness, generosity, and caring spirit bring the "light of Christ" into the everyday struggles of living. All of us can do that. The loving care of Christ comes into our world through people who have kind words for others, through people willing to assist those in need, through people who generously give of themselves to help out in everyday efforts, through people who bring a smile and caring spirit to the people they meet. All of us can be the "light of the world." But it is fair to ask what sustains us in those efforts in a world where struggles and painful realities are all too present. To sustain our efforts to live with love, we need to regularly nourish our own spirits with the light of Christ, with the love Jesus brings to us and to our world. We do that especially by opening our hearts to the Lord in prayer and worship. This is not a pollyannish love; it is the love of Jesus who embraced our human pain and even our dying as he took up the Cross to give us life. The light of Christ, the love Jesus brings, is a love stronger than death. It is a love that sustains us when we

are tempted to give up on living with love. May we all be nourished by the love that Jesus brings to us and may we all be the "light of the world," people who bring Christ's love to others.

A week ago Saturday the Church celebrated the feast day of St. Thomas Aquinas. One incident in St. Thomas Aquinas' life struck me in relation to the concern in our Church to promote vocations to the priesthood, religious life, diaconate, and lay Church ministry. Thomas was from a family of noble lineage. His family wanted him to become a Benedictine monk with the hope that he would become abbot of the nearby Abbey of Monte Cassino. The abbot at that time was a kinsman of Thomas' family. When Thomas went off and became a Dominican priest, his family members were unhappy that he had joined a mendicant order and actually kidnapped him and confined him in a nearby castle in an attempt to dissuade him. After two years and many efforts, Thomas' family gave up and permitted him to return to the Dominicans, where he resumed his studies under St. Albert the Great and ultimately became one of the greatest theologians in our Church's history. I share this story to highlight an important factor in promoting Church vocations—support from the family and community for men and women who are thinking of serving the Church in one of those vocations. One way we can join in giving that support is through our prayers and our Vocation Cross program in which we ask an individual, family, or couple to take a Vocation Cross after each of our Sunday Masses and to pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life,

and lay Church vocations each day in that week. The Vocation Cross is returned to church before that particular Mass the following week. I invite you to sign up to do this in the book on the ushers' table behind the back pew. I ask everyone to pray for young people to respond to God's call to Church leadership that is so important to our Church's future.

On a separate note, in the past week parishioners who have previously donated to the Annual Catholic Appeal likely received a letter from Cardinal Cupich asking that they make a donation to the 2017 Annual Catholic Appeal. The Appeal provides funds to support parishes and schools in financially challenged communities, evangelization and religious education initiatives, clergy and lay formation programs, Catholic Relief Services that assists the poor overseas, and other ministries that provide resources for our own parish and other parishes across the Archdiocese.

I will present the Appeal next weekend. A brochure describing the ministries and services supported by the Annual Catholic Appeal will appear in the bulletin next weekend. Note that when our parish reaches its goal of \$68,287 in paid donations, 100% of additional funds received will be returned to us for use in our parish. We invite your generosity to the Annual Catholic Appeal that supports important ministries in our Archdiocese.

May God bless you and your loved ones.

Fr. Jay

Spiritual Life



Join us on "The Journey"

Give yourself the gift of a spiritually uplifting program this Lent shared with fellow parishioners and friends. **The Journey** is a resource we will use during Lent to help participants deepen their personal relationships with Christ and enable them to experience the joy of encountering Jesus in their daily lives.

Faith sharing groups will meet weekly during Lent to reflect, read from Scripture, watch powerful videos, and discuss how Jesus touches each of their lives personally. Participants are also given suggested actions they can take with them to live out in their daily lives. Sessions will be held in the church offices and at parishioners' homes at convenient times throughout the week.

Sign ups for individual groups will take place after all the Masses this weekend, as well as the weekend of February 18/19. Participant booklets will also be on sale for \$6 each. We encourage parishioners to hold small groups in their homes. Leader guides and videos are different than participant booklets this year and will **only** be ordered as we receive confirmed information about home sessions. If you would like to host a group in your home or would like additional information about the program, please contact Barbara Black at 708-466-9962 or barbara@ststephentinley.com

We look forward to having you join us on "The Journey".

Communion for the Homebound

St. Stephen has a ministry of Archdiocesan trained volunteers who will administer the Holy Eucharist to those who are unable to attend Mass because of sickness, recent surgery, or age. Our ministers are caring men and women who will offer compassion, faith sharing, and prayer to the homebound and their caregivers when they bring Holy Communion into their homes.

Schedules are flexible and can be arranged by the minister and the person to be visited or his/her caregiver. If you or someone you know would like to receive this life giving Sacrament, please call Father Greg in the parish offices at 708-342-2400 to make arrangements.

New Ways to Honor or Remember a Loved One

If you would like to sponsor the Sanctuary candle or the Holy Family flowers for a special occasion or for a memorial, please stop by the parish office. Reservations are now open through December 2017. A recommended donation of \$50 is requested. Weekly bouquets will be seasonal, fresh-cut flowers provided by Hearts and Flowers Florist in Tinley Park.

If you have any questions, please contact the parish office at 708-342-2400.



Parish Vocation Prayer Cross Program

The Parish Vocation Prayer Cross Program sign ups are at the back of church on the ushers' table. At each Mass on Saturday evening or Sunday, a family, couple, or individual will be invited to come forward after communion to receive the Vocation Prayer Cross and a special prayer. In taking the cross, they commit themselves to pray during the week, in the name of our parish, the vocation prayer in thanksgiving for all those generously sharing in Church ministry and in asking God for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, and lay Church ministries. Everyone is invited to participate in this program.

Book Discussion: *Resisting Happiness*, by Matthew Kelly

Our discussion sessions on Matthew Kelly's book *Resisting Happiness* will continue on Sunday, February 12, and will run every two weeks for three more sessions. Fr. Jay will lead these discussions. Everyone is invited to participate. The next discussion will cover chapters 15 through 21.

We will begin our discussion with a light supper at 4:30 PM and finish in time for the 6:15 PM Mass. Please call the parish office at 708-342-2400 if you plan to attend so that we can prepare appropriately for the food.

Online Spiritual Resource—St. Stephen parishioners are invited to sign up for *Formed*, an online resource filled with all the best Catholic content, all in one place. Entertaining movies, enlightening programs, inspiring talks, and a great selection of popular e-books are just a click away. **New children's movies have recently been added.** Take advantage of your free subscription and register using our parish code **RR3NKN**. For more information log on to www.formed.org

From Our Associate Pastor

Jak to przeżyć, by żyć?

Nie twierdzę, że życie jest wyłącznie obciążone problemami, ale mimo wszystko usłane różami to ono nie jest. I jeśli usłyszycie zdanie: „jak sobie pościesz, tak się wyśpisz”, to nie wpadajcie w złość lub histerię, bo to przysłowie ma sens. Niestety, nasze życie obfituje w niedogodności, przychodzą momenty, w których mamy dość tych wszystkich wydarzeń i problemów spadających na nas jak szarańcza.

W dzisiejszych czytaniach, a szczególnie w Ewangelii będącej ciągiem dalszym Kazania na Górze, otrzymujemy kilka wspaniałych rad dotyczących naszego postępowania nie tylko wobec samych siebie, ale także wobec tych, którzy od nas – a szczególnie chrześcijan – oczekują pomocy, wsparcia, słowa czy po prostu obecności. I jakby tak przeanalizować teksty, to jesteśmy w stanie znaleźć receptę na nasze problemy życiowe.

Izajasz wskazuje nam, jak powinniśmy traktować naszych bliźnich. Bliźnich nie musimy szukać – oni są blisko, bliźniutko, za ścianą, obok nas, a my ich nie widzimy lub nie dostrzegamy, bo skupieni jesteśmy na własnych problemach. Jednakże, jeśli my zwrócimy uwagę na ich problemy, to nasze problemy staną się mniejsze bądź nieistotne. A Bóg, który widzi nasze zainteresowanie się innymi, wspomógł nas swoją opieką. Prorok przypomina, by „dzielić swój chleb z głodnym, wprowadzić w dom biednych tułaczy, nagiego, którego ujrzyś, przyodziać i nie odwrócić się od współziomków. Wtedy twoje światło wejdzie jak zorza i szybko rozkwitnie twoje zdrowie. Sprawiedliwość twoja poprzedzi cię będzie, chwała Pańska iść będzie za tobą.” (Iz 58,7-8).

Izajasz pisze o czynach, zaś święty Paweł w Liście do Koryntian pisze o słowach, czyli o tym, jak należy głosić wiarę. Sam o sobie mówi: „A mowa moja i moje głoszenie nauki nie miały nic z uwodzących przekonywaniem słów mądrości, lecz były ukazywaniem ducha i mocy, aby wiara wasza opierała się nie na mądrości ludzkiej, lecz na mocy Bożej.” (1 Kor 2,4-5).

W Kazaniu na Górze, po wypowiedzeniu ośmiu błogosławieństw, Jezus przedstawił kodeks moralny określający najważniejsze zasady postępowania, życia, wiary. Już samo stwierdzenie "Wy jesteście solą dla ziemi." (Mt 5,13a) jest tak znamienne, że my, jako chrześcijanie, powinniśmy czuć się wybrańcami, którzy mają szczęście odczytywać Słowa Chrystusa skierowane przecież do wszystkich, do tych, których już nie ma, do nas i do tych, którzy po nas nastąpią. Ale bycie wybrańcem zobowiązuje. Do czego zobowiązuje? Na to pytanie Jezus Chrystus też daje nam jasną odpowiedź: „Tak niech świeci wasze światło przed ludźmi, aby widzieli wasze dobre uczynki i chwalili Ojca waszego, który jest w niebie.” (Mt 5,16).

Maryjo, Boża Rodzicielko, Matko nasza, przez Twoje wstawienie prosimy o zdolność takiego wsłuchania się w każde skierowane do nas słowo Boga, byśmy w każdej chwili i w każdym miejscu potrafili wypełniać wolę Bożą.

How can I live to survive?

I'm not saying that life is only burdened with problems, but after all it is not always a bed of roses. Unfortunately, our life can be full of heartaches and troubles and there are moments when we have all had enough.

In today's readings, especially in the Gospel, which is the sequel of the Sermon on the Mount, we get some great tips for how to live to survive. As Christians, we must expect to help each other, to support with our words or sometimes, just be present. If we examine the readings, we can find direction to help with the problems of life.

Isaiah shows us how we should treat our fellow human beings. We do not have to look for our neighbors that may be suffering because they are close, yet we do not see them because we are focused on our own problems. However, if we pay attention to their problems, our problems may become smaller or negligible. A God who sees our interest in our neighbors, will help us with their care. Isaiah says, "we should share our bread with the hungry, shelter the homeless, clothe the poor and do not turn away from our neighbors. If you do this, your light will rise like the dawn, and your own healing will quickly flourish. Thy righteousness will precede you, the glory of the Lord shall go for you." (Isaiah 58,7-8).

Isaiah writes about what we can do, and St. Paul in the Letter to the Corinthians writes about how to find comforting words, which is about how to preach the faith. He says this about himself "And my speech and my preaching was not with my own words of wisdom, but the words of the Holy Spirit. Your faith is based not on human wisdom but on the power of God." (1 Cor 2,4-5).

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus presented the moral code of conduct setting out the main principles for life and faith. The very statement "You are the salt of the earth." (Matthew 5:13) is so significant that we, as Christians, we should know we are the chosen ones who are lucky enough to read the words of Christ, but being chosen has its obligations. Will you oblige? Jesus Christ also gives us a clear request: "let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father, who is in heaven." (Mt 5:16).

Informacje Dotyczące Duszpasterstwa w Parafii Sw. Szczepana

W ciągu całego roku Msza Św. w niedziele w języku polskim jest o godz. 1PM

-Pierwszy piątek miesiąca: Spowiedź of 6:30-7:30pm Msza o 7:30pm

-Pierwsza sobota miesiąca: od godz. 7pm-9:30pm

-Spowiedź w każdą sobotę of godz. 8:45-9:30a.m.

-Po bliższe informacje proszę dzwonić do biura parafialnego pod numer 1(708) 342- 2400 wew 137

Spiritual Life

Are you looking for a spiritually enriching experience this Lent?

The answer is the Kingdom Renewal Weekend. It is an informal, faith-sharing weekend presented by St. Stephen Parishioners. You will hear the stories of the presenters' faith journeys, join in prayer, have time for personal reflection, and conversation with attendees.

This year's Kingdom Renewal Weekend will take place at St. Stephen Parish on Saturday, April 1 from 7:30am—8:30pm and on Sunday, April 2 from 7:45am—4pm. *There is no overnight stay.* All **adults** (18 years and older; any marital status) are invited to attend.

Registration for the Kingdom Renewal Weekend is now open. Please complete the registration form below and return it along with a \$10 Registration fee to the Parish Office to the attention of Barbara Black by Tuesday, March 28th.

Or, you can now also register and pay online at www.ststephentinley.com

► Tip: At the top of St. Stephen's home page, click on the Formation tab. When the drop down menu appears, click on 2017 Kingdom Renewal Weekend and follow the prompts.

If you have any questions about Kingdom Weekend, please contact Barbara Black at 708.466.9962 or by email at barbara@ststephentinley.com

<i>2017 Kingdom Weekend—Registration Form</i>	
Name:	
Email:	
Best phone number to reach you:	
Check if transportation is needed: <input type="checkbox"/> To the event <input type="checkbox"/> From the event <input type="checkbox"/> Both ways	
Please provide emergency contact information for someone not living with you.	
Name:	Phone number:
Please select your lunch preference. (Check one.)	
Sandwich: <input type="checkbox"/> Ham <input type="checkbox"/> Turkey <input type="checkbox"/> Beef	Salad: <input type="checkbox"/> Grilled Chicken <input type="checkbox"/> Julienne
<i>Checks should be made payable to St. Stephen Catholic Church. The fee is \$10 per person.</i>	
02052017	



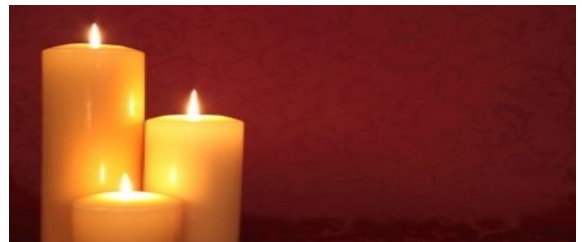
Stewardship Reflection

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” MATTHEW 5:16

The generosity of being a good steward of your gifts has a positive effect on people and it is contagious! Good works encourages more good works. Let your light shine!

Be careful to recognize that God is working through you and don't put yourself above the people you have been called to help.



Marriage



Banns I: Michael Hahn & Kerri Ruswick

The Spirituality of Stewardship—Ministry Fair Next Weekend

Our parish will celebrate the Spirituality of Stewardship with a Ministry Fair on Saturday, February 11 and Sunday, February 12. Below are explanations of the Youth Education and Formation Commission, the Human Concerns Commission, and our Parish Life Ministries. Please take a moment to look over these ministries while you reflect upon your interests. Our parish focuses on the Spirituality of Stewardship which reminds all of us that our gifts come from God and God asks us to share some of those gifts with the people around. Please consider sharing your time and talent with our parish. You'll be glad you did!

Youth Education and Formation Commission ministries are as follows:

- Our **Branches Teen Ministry** program provides the youth of our parish the opportunity to join other teens from their faith in a variety of social and service activities. There are junior high (5th—8th grades) and high school groups.
- **Cardinal Joseph Bernardin School**, our parish co-sponsors our school with St. Elizabeth Seton, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Julie Billiart parishes. The school has classes for children from Pre-K through 8th grade.
- **Children's Liturgy of the Word** provides special religious instruction for pre-school thru 6th grade children at the 10 AM Mass.
- **Growing with God Program** is a Sunday School program for registered children ages 3, 4, and 5/6.
- **Religious Education (R.E.)** provides religious instruction for children of the parish.
- The **Religious Education Board** is an advisory group that assists the Director of Religious Education and the Pastor with living out of the educational mission of the parish.

Human Concerns Commission includes:

- **The Bereavement Ministry** provides support and resources for those who have suffered the loss of a loved one.
- The **Domestic Violence Outreach Ministry** increases awareness of domestic violence and provides referrals and education regarding domestic violence.
- **The Elizabeth Ministry** focuses on outreach to women in special times of motherhood.
- **The Ministers of Care** bring Communion to the homebound, to those in nursing homes, or to those in hospitals.
- **PADS** is a network of homeless shelters serving the homeless of our community. Volunteering with PADS gives you an opportunity to practice hands on ministry.
- **The Respect Life Ministry** works to celebrate life in all stages from conception to natural death.
- **The Shawl Ministry** is made up of parishioners who meet monthly to knit or crochet shawls for the sick, homebound, and other special needs.
- **SWIFT** is an organization of Christian, Jewish, and Islamic congregations working to foster understanding among the religions.
- **The St. Vincent de Paul Society** offers person-to-person services to those who are in need and suffering.

Our Parish Life Ministries include:

- **The Men's Club** exists to instill a deeper knowledge of our Catholic faith and the personal sanctification of its members.
- **Moms & Tots** is a group for parents and children ages birth through three.
- **The Ladies' Social Club** meets regularly to socialize with old and new friends.
- **The Seniors Young at Heart** group meets regularly on the last Monday of the month. Seniors get together at the parish to socialize with friends. A variety of activities are planned throughout the year - entertainment, speakers, spiritual reflections, etc.
- **The Special Events Committee** provides a warm welcome and friendly fellowship for all by providing refreshments at our parish's special events.
- **The Welcoming Committee** provides a warm welcome for all new parishioners and friendly fellowship for all our parishioners by providing refreshments after the 10 AM Mass on the second and fourth Sundays of the month.

Do any of these ministries look interesting to you? If so, please stop by the Ministry Fair to talk about the ministry and possibly join it. We welcome you to share your time and talent with St. Stephen Parish.

Parish Life

■ Payments made directly to the Archdiocese for our Parish Life Center...

Anyone who is making payments directly to the Archdiocese for our Parish Life Center (via To Teach Who Christ Is) will receive a separate tax statement from them in the following week. Please know that all of these payments go directly into the St. Stephen account at the Archdiocese. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me. Thank you and God bless you for all your generosity. —Karen

■ Annual Parish Raffle

Our \$500 early bird drawing for our Annual Parish Raffle is this Sunday, February 5 after the 11:30 AM Mass. Good luck to all our participants! You still have time to enter our main drawing which will be held at our St. Joseph Dinner on March 25, 2017. The prizes are (1) \$5,000 Grand Prize; (1) \$1,000 Second Prize; and (1) \$500 Third Prize.

■ Parish 500 Club Winners

Congratulations to the following winners for the week of January 30, 2017:

- **\$100 Winner**—Square #351, S. Collins
- **\$25 Winner**—Square #135, Esskay

■ Parish Registration and Welcoming

Join us next Sunday for coffee and treats after the 10 AM Mass. All are welcome.

Human Concerns

■ Prayer Vigil at Planned Parenthood

Please plan to join a peaceful prayer vigil and protest to be held at Orland Park Planned Parenthood. The group will gather along the public right-of-way extending from 14470 LaGrange Road in Orland Park. This vigil will take place from 11am to Noon on Saturday, February 11. Parking is available at the Orland Chateau (14500 LaGrange Road), in the rear lot.

The event will be in conjunction with a national protest at Planned Parenthood locations throughout the nation. As the largest abortion provider in the nation, they also profit from the sale of aborted baby body parts in violation of the law.

■ Divorced and Hurting ?

Divorce is painful and often shattering. Divorce does change every aspect of a person's life. If you would like help in managing these changes please join us at: St. Elizabeth Seton Church on Sunday, February 5 at 7PM for an informational meeting in the Cornerstone building (*located on NE corner of 167th and 94 Avenue in Orland Hills*).

St. Elizabeth Seton parish will be offering a 10-session study/discussion group using the book "Divorce and Beyond." Those who have suffered a divorce or are in the process are invited to register. The group will meet on dates to be determined at the February 5 meeting.

For more information, please contact Deacon Joe Truesdale at 708-614-0286.

■ Thank you from the Tinley Park Food Pantry...

Thank you for the Christmas gifts your church provided for our food pantry clientele. These gifts were distributed to the parents on December 14, 2016. Your participation in this special effort surely had made Christmas a more joyous occasion than usual for many children. Thanks again for allowing us to be partners with you in serving those who are of lesser means than most of us.—Chuck Okresik

■ Domestic Violence Outreach Ministry

The next meeting for the Domestic Violence Outreach ministry at our parish is February 24 at 7 PM in Rooms 125/126. Please join us if you are interested in participating in this new ministry.

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month. We pray for all those who may be suffering from any form of violence.

Human Concerns



Are you struggling and in need of help ?

Confidentiality & compassion are the cornerstones of our ministry.

In the Gospel today, Jesus says, "You are the light of the world," he is calling us to live our Christian vocation in words and deeds. Be a "light" to those living in poverty and in a world of darkness by giving a donation to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Please contact our parish office at 708-342-2400, ask for the SVdP hotline, and leave a message when you are connected to the voicemail box. Be sure to leave your name and a phone number where you can be reached. Someone from our SVdP ministry group will contact you.

Human Concerns

Parish Help Needed for 7th Grade Confirmation Project

Seventh grade students from St. Stephen Deacon and Martyr and St. Elizabeth Seton parishes are going to participate in a service project to benefit PADS, Illinois Veterans Home in Manteno, and St. Leo Veterans Campus in Chicago. This project involves the gathering of travel size toiletries and other easily carried personal essentials for these guests. Many of these items you may already have in your homes, otherwise they can be purchased for a dollar or so at dollar stores or other retailers in the health and personal care departments. Our students will collect and gather these items and then meet to organize and package them. **Due to health care policies, all personal care items must be new and unopened.**

If you would like to support this service project, please consider donating items from the suggested list below. **Items will be collected in boxes in the Narthex up through Friday, February 24.** Please put your items in a plastic bag and market it with the words “Service Project.”



Suggested Travel Size Items :

Baby Powder	Hand sanitizer
Bottled water	Life Saver candy
Cheese/Cracker - snack size pkgs.	Lip balm
Combs	Safety razor (Bic type)
Dental floss	Shaving gel or lotion
Denture cream	Tissues - Pocket Size Packages
Deodorant bar soap	Toothbrushes
Face and hand moisturizer	Toothpaste
	Zip lock bags

Optional Items:

Hand warmers
McDonald's Gift Cards
New gloves
New socks
New stocking caps
New t-shirts
Rain ponchos

Please note—we are also collecting gently used backpacks, gym bags, purses and totes. If you have an item to donate, please bring it to the Narthex as well.

If you have any questions about this project, please contact the RE Office at St. Stephen's at 708-342-1544 or please see Deacon Bill Schultz.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Community

- St. Julie Billiart parish will be hosting a Pinochle Club on Saturday, February 25, 2017. You need not be a skilled player to come and enjoy a game of cards, fellowship and refreshments with your neighbors. No need to register simply come to the St Julie Parish hall (adjacent to the church) for a 6 pm game start. This group will meet monthly on the fourth Sunday of the month from 6 – 8 pm. For additional information, see the St Julie website at www.stjulie.org or call 708.429-6767.
- Congratulations to St. Stephen parishioners Patrick Dumais and Vincent Zampillo for achieving High Honor Roll at Brother Rice High School during the Fall Semester. Well done! Brother Rice is an all boys Catholic high school located at 99th and Pulaski in Chicago.



Cardinal Joseph Bernardin School

CARDINAL JOSEPH BERNARDIN CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Production of



Friday, February 17th - 7:00pm
Saturday, February 18th - 3:00pm

TICKETS:

\$10.00 - ADULTS

**\$6.00 - STUDENTS/
SENIORS/CHILDREN**

WHERE:

**ANDREW HIGH SCHOOL
9001 W 171ST STREET
TINLEY PARK**

TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

**"You're Never Fully Dressed
Without A Smile!"**

**Based on "Little Orphan Annie"
by permission of The Media Tribune Services, Inc.**

**Music by
Charles Strouse**

**Lyrics by
Martin Charnin**

**Book by
Thomas Meehan**

*Annie Jr. is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.*

www.MTIShows.com

Military Corner



Please pray for our Military men and women on a daily basis for their safe return.

CPL Nicholas Cascone
Capt. Anthony J. Cesaro
Major Vincent Cesaro
Capt. Michael Chimienti

Lt. A.m.anda Griffith
Sgt. Evan Grober
Capt. Michael Gryczka
Lt. Dan Kniaz

Tsgt. Laura Langley
Ssgt. Carl Langley
Sgt. Joseph Malone
Capt. Christopher Mazurek

Sgt. Dominic Messina
PFC Matthew O'Boyle
LCDR Marilyn Walsh
Major Thomas Walsh

Cardinal Joseph Bernardin School

Join us for an evening celebrating award-winning Catholic education and CJB family friendships. Come dine and dance with us!



Event runs 7 PM—Midnight in the South Ballroom.

Tickets are \$50 per person. Includes a plated dinner, dessert, soft drinks, and coffee.

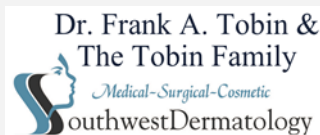
Event features the live band Final Say.

Live Auction • Silent auction using mobile bidding by Gesture • Basket Raffles

Please RSVP by February 19, 2017.

For event details and to purchase tickets online, visit www.cjbgala.org

Questions can be sent to the Gala Committee at CJBGala@gmail.com



The Shankman Family • Palermos of 63rd St. • The Bernas Family • MJK Law Firm

Parish Calendar



Day	Date	Time	Event	Location
Sunday	Feb-05		Baby Nursing	#153
		All Masses	St. Blaise—Blessing of Throats	Church
		All Masses	St. Vincent de Paul Food Drive	Narthex
			Sign Up for Lenten Program "The Journey"	Narthex
		9:30 AM	RCIA	#125
		10:00 AM	Family Mass Gr. 5	Church
Monday	Feb-06	10:00 - 11:00 AM	Growing With God	#162-167
		3:00 - 4:00 PM	Baptism	Church
		4:15-5:30pm; 6-7:15pm	RE Classes	Education Wing
		4:15-5:30pm; 6-7:15pm	RE Classes	Education Wing
Tuesday	Feb-07	9:30 AM - 3:30 PM	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Daily Chapel
		7:30 PM	Parish Worship Team	#125
		4:15-5:30pm; 6-7:15pm	RE Classes	Education Wing
Wednesday	Feb-08	7:30 PM	Highlanders	#170-173
		7:30 PM	SVDP	#126
		Lunch/Dinner	Men's Club Restaurant Fundraiser	Gatto's
Thursday	Feb-09	4:15-5:30pm; 6-7:15pm	RE Classes	Education Wing
		9:30 - 11:00 AM	Moms and Tots	#161
		7:00 - 8:30 PM	Adult Choir	Church
		8:00 AM - 2:30 PM	Confirmation Retreat	Education Wing/Church
Friday	Feb-10	8:30 AM - 6:30 PM	Adoration of Blessed Sacrament with Rosary	Daily Chapel
		8:45 AM	Art & Environment	#167/179
		4:30 - 5:30 PM	Children's Choir	Church
		6:30 - 7:00 PM	Benediction followed by Divine Mercy Prayers	Daily Chapel
		7:00 - 9:00 PM	Praise Band	Church
Saturday	Feb-11	8:00 AM - 2:30 PM	Confirmation Retreat	Education Wing/Church
		8:45 - 10:00 AM	Scripture Study	#126
		9:30 AM - 3:30 PM	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Daily Chapel
Sunday	Feb-12		Baby Nursing	#153
		All Masses	Stewardship Ministry Fair	Narthex
Sunday	Feb-12		Baby Nursing	#153
		All Masses	Stewardship Ministry Fair	Narthex
		9:30 AM	RCIA	#125
		10:00 AM	Family Mass	Church
		11:00 AM	Welcoming & Parish Registration	#158/159
		3:00 - 4:00 PM	Baptism	Church
Sunday	Feb-12	4:00 PM	Living Stations	Church
		4:30 - 6:00 PM	Resisting Happiness Book Discussion	LMR

Celebrants, Deacons, Greeters, and Counters

Date	Ministry	Sat 5 PM	Sun 7 AM	Sun 8:30 AM	Sun 10 AM	Sun 11:30 AM	Sun 1 PM Polish
2/12	Deacons Greeters	Deacon Bob Mary Berger Mary Tafoya Flo Simosky Jean Coughlin	Deacon Bob	Deacon Bill S. Sharon Murphy Tom Mitus Mike Tyrrell Eileen Tyrrell	Deacon Bill S. Chris Losey Mark Losey Dorothy Meyrick Bob Meyrick	Deacon Ken Judy Kluchins Joan Beck Julie Gilligan Seana Gilligan	
	Counters	2/12	Team #1	2/19	Team #2		

Mass Intentions

<u>2/5</u>	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Requested by:</u>
7:00am	Za Dusze W. Czyscu Cierpiace	
	Edward Senese	Dcn Joe & Linda Stalcup
8:30am	Mary A. Marren	The Family
	Dave Onak	Joe & Barb Onak
10:00am	Suzanna Leonard	Irene Doyle Family
	Francesca Campione	Michela Campione
11:30am	Noemi Caravantes	Miriam Castilio
	Gus M. Graziano, Jr.	The Graziano Family
1:00pm	Za Dusze W. Czyscu Cierpiace	
6:15pm	Jack McNamara	Kathleen Brennan
	Estelle Rogers	Karen Hooker
<u>2/6</u>	<u>Monday</u>	
8:00am	Robert Black	Barbara Black
	Int of LaVonne Maurisak	Loretta Wills
<u>2/7</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	
8:00am	Robert Obiala	The Family
	Julia Wegner	Ted Wegner
<u>2/8</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	
8:00am	Geraldo Donato	The Busa Family
	Heather Petropulas	Anna Plecki
<u>2/9</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	
8:00am	Deceased members of the Eilenfeldt Family	Dcn Joe & Linda Stalcup
	Mass for all the deceased.	Anonymous
<u>2/10</u>	<u>Friday</u>	
8:00am	Norbert W. Brasky	Dolores F. Michalski
	Ann Deany	Carol Fornek
	Purgatorial Society	
<u>2/11</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	
8:00am	Bernice Vlasaty	Bob & Nancy Belling
	Dicky Cajigas	The Deanching Family
5:00pm	Pat Power	Dottie Power
	Maury Kane	The Family
	Steve & Joe Yanko	The Yanko Family
	Don Daley	Bern Daley & Family
	Marlene Frejlich	The Family
	Roger Johnson, Jr.	The Family
<u>2/12</u>	<u>Sunday</u>	
7:00am	Za Dusze W. Czyscu Cierpiace	
	Roberta Paulauskis	Sheila Madjecki
8:30am	Thomas Rogan	The Family
	Stanley Mitus	Tom Mitus
10:00am	Ellen Adams	M/M R. Lindenmeyer
	Francesca Campione	Michela Campione
11:30am	Roger Johnson, Jr.	The Family
	Anna Mae Zmuda	Roy & Mary Ann Fornek
1:00pm	Za Dusze W. Czyscu Cierpiace	
	Jozef Kowalczyk	The Family
6:15pm	Jeri Busa	Donna Pinta
	Jack MacNamara	Kristine Papa

Pray For Our Sick

Julie Barth	Helen Michalik
Arlene Beavan	Joey Moylan
Mary Beechy	Julie Murray
Grace Boblak	Dave Newquist
Kathie Brosius	Patricia Peliggi
Donald Bryar	Anna Plecki
Ramy Bryar	Joe & Joan Ricciuti
Tammy Burns	Marek Rudzki
Joanne Chess	Mary Lou Schoettler
Thomas Connors	Nicole Siedschlag
John Czerniak	Jim Smith
Bob & Sheila Dickman	Irene Stepp
Joe Dorff	Rachel Swallow
Janice Dorff	Joseph Tierney
Bill Dunlap	Elizabeth Tyminski
Robert Engler	Michael Vasek
Bill Galvin	Kelly Weiss
Caroline Grady	Ken & Patricia Weissman
Claire Herbert	Richard White
Larry Hersh	
And for all for whom our parish is asked to pray	

Names of parishioners will be kept on the prayer list at Mass for four weeks and listed in the bulletin for 60 days. Immediate family members are asked to call after four weeks if you wish to still have the name read at Mass.

Names of non-parishioners who are immediate family members of our parishioners will be read at Mass for two weeks and listed in the bulletin for two weeks.

Please Pray for Our Deceased

Therese Ballard
Marian Kwak
Frank Zeiger

Weekly Readings

Sun	Is 58:7-10/1 Cor 2:1-5
Mon	Gn 1:1-19/Mk 6:53-56
Tues	Gn 1:20—2:4a/Mk 7:1-13
Wed	Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Mk 7:14-23
Thur	Gn 2:18-25/Mk 7:24-30
Fri	Gn 2:18-25/Mk 7:24-30
Sat	Gn 3:1-8/Mk 7:31-37

Welcome to Our Newly Baptized

Austin James Shewmaker

Thank You Advertisers

Earn \$\$\$\$ for St. Stephen's Parish!

Have lunch or dinner at Gatto's on the 2nd or 4th Wednesday of the month and help in raising funds for St. Stephen's parish. The parish will receive 15% of the before tax cost of your meal. Please present this coupon to your server or ask your server to write St. Stephen's Men's Club on your bill.



St. Stephen Men's Club

Dine-In or Carryout

2nd & 4th Wednesdays

of the month

15% Donation (before tax)

Present this coupon to your
server