



St. Stephen Deacon & Martyr Catholic Church

“We are a Stewardship Parish”

Mass of Anticipation

5pm Saturday

Sunday Masses

English:

7am, 8:30am, 10am, 11:30am, and 6:15pm

Polish:

1pm

Daily Mass

8am Monday through Saturday

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Bilingual

Saturdays after the 8AM Mass
and by appointment

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Mondays & Fridays 8:30am—3:30pm

Thursdays 8:30am—6:30pm

Benediction & Divine Mercy Prayers

Thursdays at 6:30pm

Rosary

7:30pm - 2nd and last Tuesday of the month

Informacje Dotyczące Duszpasterstwa w Parafii Św. Szczepana

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

Pierwszy piątek miesiąca: Spowiedź od
6:30-7:30pm

Msza o 7:30pm

Pierwsza sobota miesiąca: od godz.

7:00-9:30pm

Spowiedź w każdą sobotę od godz.

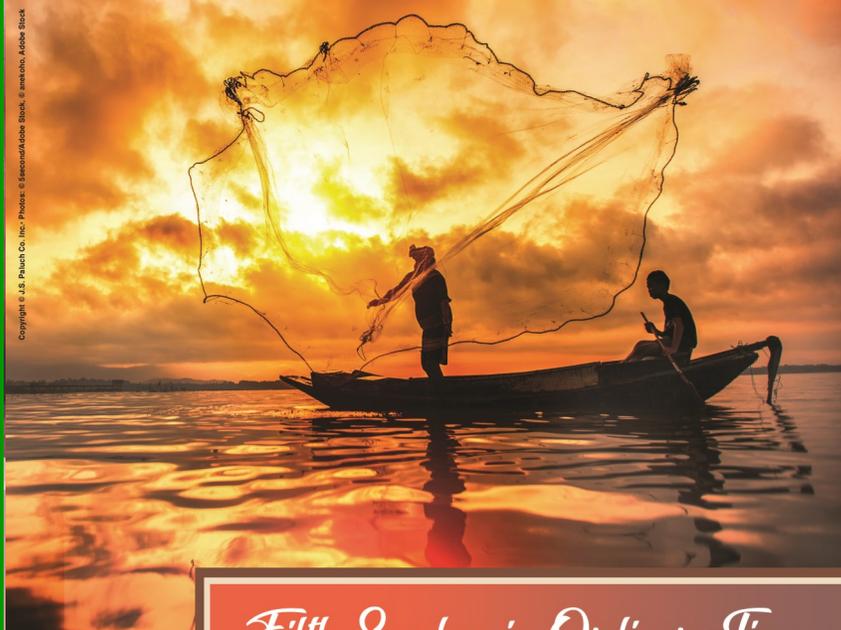
8:45

JESUS SAID TO SIMON,
“PUT OUT INTO
DEEP WATER AND
LOWER YOUR NETS
FOR A CATCH.”

Luke 5:4

FEBRUARY 10, 2019

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Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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.

St. Stephen Deacon and Martyr Catholic Church

17500 South 84th Avenue, Tinley Park, IL 60487

www.ststephentinley.com

Parish Office Phone: 708-342-2400 | Parish Office Fax: 708-342-1545

Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30am—12:30pm and 1–8:00pm | Friday 8:30am—12:30pm and 1-4pm
Saturday Noon—5pm

Religious Education Phone: 708-342-1544

RE Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30am—12:30pm and 1pm-4:30pm | Friday 8:30am—12:30pm
Evenings and weekends by appointment. Please call to schedule.

Cardinal Joseph Bernardin Parish School (CJB)

9250 West 167th Street, Orland Hills, IL 60487

Phone: 708-403-6525 | Fax: 708-403-8621 | web: cjbschool.org | email: info@cjbschool.org

Pastor

Rev. Tom Bernas

Associate Pastor

Rev. Mirek Kulesa

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. James Finno

Deacons

Robert Conlin

William Engler

Chuck McFarland

William Schultz

Pete Van Merkestyn

Administrative Asst. to Pastor

Karen Opyd

Adult Formation

Barbara Black

Communications

Maintenance Director

Dave Prete

Music Minister

Selina Prasad

Receptionist

Noreen Galvin

Youth/Young Adult Minister

Kyle Groves

Director of Religious Education

Sandi Morgan

Assoc. Director of Religious Ed.

Leslie Krauledis

Religious Ed. Admin. Assistant

Dee Zvejnieks

Religious Education Secretary

Patti Parker

CJB Principal

Mary Iannucilli

CJB Admissions Director

Cynthia Labriola Devlin

Anointing of the Sick—Please contact the parish office if you or a loved one needs this holy sacrament.

Baptisms are celebrated every Sunday at 3pm in English and 1pm in Polish. Please contact Fr. Tom in the parish office for the necessary preparations. New parishioners are required to register. A baptism preparation class is required to have your child baptized at St. Stephen's.

Communion for the sick, elderly, handicapped, or homebound parishioners can be arranged by calling Barbara Black at 708-466-9962.

Funerals can be arranged through the contact 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.

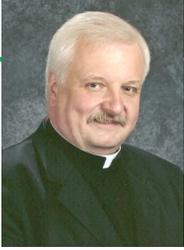
New parishioners are invited to register:

- After the 10am Mass on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of every month.
- By appointment on Mondays at 2pm, Tuesdays at 11am, Wednesdays at 8:30am or Thursdays at 6:45pm. Please contact the parish office.

For those in need:

- **Counseling services** are available through the Holbrook Counseling Center of Catholic Charities. To get help, call 312-655-7725 or visit the website at catholiccharities.net
- For **Bereavement and Crisis Counseling**, please contact Deacon Pete Van Merkestyn. Appointments will be taken on Wednesdays at 10am, 11am, and 12pm. Please call the parish office or email Deacon Pete at dcnpete@ststephentinley.com to arrange for an appointment.
- For parishioners struggling and in need of assistance, please contact the **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. Please contact the parish office for more information.
- For information about **Domestic Violence** awareness, services, and prevention, please contact Deacon Bill Schultz at the parish office.

FATHER TOM'S TIDBITS



Dear Friends,

Last Sunday, we heard how Jesus was rejected in his hometown of Nazareth. In the verses that follow, Jesus travels to the town of Capernaum and begins his ministry of teaching and healing. While in Capernaum, Jesus cures a man possessed with a demon and heals Simon's mother-in-law. After spending some time there, Jesus prepares to preach in other places. The fact that Jesus had previously been in Simon's home and healed his mother-in-law suggests that this encounter is not the first between Jesus and Simon Peter. We can read today's Gospel, therefore, as a description of the developing relationship between Jesus and Simon Peter.

In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches from Simon's boat. Jesus turns to Simon and instructs him about where to lower the fishing nets. Simon and others have been fishing throughout the night and have not caught anything. Simon protests, claiming that such an effort would be futile. Simon ultimately obeys Jesus and lowers his nets into the deeper water as directed. Notice here that Peter calls Jesus by the title "master." He already recognizes Jesus as a person of authority. They catch so many fish that the nets begin to tear; Jesus' presence has created abundance out of scarcity, just as it did at the wedding feast at Cana, which we heard at Mass just a few weeks ago.

Simon Peter becomes a follower of Jesus immediately. He calls Jesus "Lord"—the title given to Jesus after his Resurrection—and protests his worthiness to be in Jesus' presence. Today's Gospel, therefore, marks a turning point in the relationship between Jesus and Peter.

Two of Simon's partners are also named as witnesses to the event described in today's Gospel: Zebedee's sons, James and John. Yet Jesus' words are addressed only to Simon. Jesus gives Simon a new job, telling him that he will become a different kind of fisherman. No longer will he catch fish; instead he will catch people. In these words, we hear the beginning of the leadership role that Peter will have within the community of disciples. Peter was chosen for this role. His task will be to bring others to Jesus. Already he is doing so; the Gospel tells us that all the fishermen with Peter also left their nets and followed Jesus.

We continue to speak of Peter's leadership and influence in the Church today when we call the pope the "successor of Peter." We participate in the mission of the Church when we bring people to Christ through the example and positive influence of our lives.

This weekend we join in prayer and spirit with those whose lives have been affected by cancer for our Cancer Awareness Mass. We join with those dealing with cancer in their lives, survivors of cancer, and their families and caregivers. We also remember all those who have lost their battle with cancer and now rest in the loving arms of our God.

As we gather this weekend we also direct our prayers to Saint Peregrine, who is the patron saint of those dealing with cancer. Peregrine was born of a wealthy family at Forli, Italy, in 1260. As a youth he was active in politics as a member of the anti-papal party. During one uprising, which the Pope sent St. Philip Benizi to mediate, Philip was struck in the face by Peregrine. When Philip offered the other cheek, Peregrine was so overcome that he repented and converted to Catholicism.

Following the instructions of the Virgin Mary received in a vision, Peregrine went to Siena and joined the Servites. Sometime later, Peregrine was sent to Forli to found a new house of the Servite Order. An ideal priest, he had a reputation for fervent preaching and being a good confessor.

When he was afflicted with cancer of the foot and amputation had been decided upon, he spent the night before the operation, in prayer. The following morning he was completely cured. This miracle caused his reputation to become widespread. He died in 1345 at the age of eighty-five, and he was canonized by Pope Benedict XIII in 1726. St. Peregrine, like St. Paul, was in open defiance of the Church as a youth. Once given the grace of conversion he became one of the great saints of his time. His great fervor and qualities as a confessor brought many back to the true Faith. Afflicted with cancer, Peregrine turned to God and was richly rewarded for his Faith, enabling him over many years to lead others to the truth.

PRAYER TO SAINT PEREGRINE

St. Peregrine, whom Holy Mother Church has declared Patron of those suffering from Cancer, I confidently turn to you for help in my present sickness. I beg your kind intercession.

Ask God to relieve me of this sickness, if it be his Holy Will. Plead with the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of Sorrows, whom you loved so tenderly and in union with whom you have suffered the pains of Cancer, that she may help me with her powerful prayers and loving consolation.

But if it should be God's Holy Will that I bear this sickness, obtain for me courage and strength to accept these trials from the loving hand of God with patience and resignation, because he knows what is best for the salvation of my soul. St. Peregrine, be my friend and patron. Help me to imitate you in accepting suffering, and to unite myself with Jesus Crucified and the Mother of Sorrows, as you did. I offer my pains to God with all the love of my heart, for his glory and the salvation of souls, especially my own. Amen.

If the Queen of Hearts was not revealed in the drawing last Wednesday we are now in week five of the raffle. We need everyone's support to make this raffle successful. All funds raised will be used to pay down the loans on the church and parish life center. As of last Monday the prize pot was at \$10,500.00. Have a Great Week!

Odczucia Świętego Piotra

Rozpocznijmy nasze rozważania od wyznania znanego francuskiego pisarza.

Jestem ateuszem pełnym wewnętrznego spokoju; nic nie przeczuwam, więc gdy znudzony czekaniem na koniec niezrozumiałych praktyk religijnych, które zatrzymują mego towarzysza dłużej, niż się tego spodziewałem, otwieram z kolei małe żelazne drzwi, by zbadać z bliska, w charakterze artysty czy gapia, budynek, gdzie mój przyjaciel – mam ochotę powiedzieć – zasiedział się. W rzeczywistości czekałem na niego najwyżej trzy albo cztery minuty. [...] I nagle przeżyłem olśnienie. Wtargnięcie Boga, gwałtowne, totalne, przynosi radość, która nie jest niczym innym jak szczęściem uratowanego, szczęściem topielca wyciągniętego w ostatniej chwili z wody; między sytuacją topielca a moją jest jednak pewna różnica: z bagna, w którym byłem pogrążony, zresztą o tym nie wiedząc, zdaję sobie dopiero sprawę w momencie, gdy niewidzialna ręka unosi mnie ku zbawieniu i wtedy ogarnia mnie zdumienie, że mogłem w tym błocie – tkwię w nim jeszcze do połowy ciała – żyć i oddychać.

Te słowa napisał cudownie nawrócony ateista, autor wywiadu rzeki z Janem Pawłem II – André Frossard. Przez większość życia uciekał przed Bogiem, uciekał przed nawróceniem. Cytowane słowa zawarł w książce *Spotkałem Boga*, pokazując, jak radosne może być spotkanie ze Stwórcą.

Czy ten tekst dotyczy także nas? Przecież wszyscy uczestniczący w tej Mszy Świętej są ludźmi wierzącymi. Byłoby jednak pychą stwierdzenie, że nie potrzebujemy nawrócenia. Część z nas przystąpi dzisiaj do Komunii Świętej, inni tego nie uczynią. Ale nawet ci będący w stanie łaski uświęcającej nie mogą z pewnością stwierdzić, że za tydzień przystąpią do stołu Pańskiego. Życie bowiem jest skomplikowane i nie da się wielu spraw i sytuacji przewidzieć.

Dzisiaj wspominamy ważne odkrycie, jakiego dokonał św. Piotr nad jeziorem Genezaret. W czytanej Ewangelii – także dla nas, ludzi XXI wieku – zawarte są rewelacyjne wskazania i myśli, które towarzyszyły apostołowi w czasie trudnego, ale z drugiej strony pięknego dnia. Cóż zatem św. Piotr odczuwał nad jeziorem?

Był bardzo zatroskany, przecież pracował całą noc i nic nie złowił. Był fachowcem i wiedział, że nie popełnił żadnego błędu. Jeśli człowiek pracuje ciężko i gorliwie, a nie przynosi to żadnego efektu, rodzi się w nim zniechęcenie. Prawdopodobnie św. Piotr był sfrustrowany. Przybił do brzegu, myśląc: „Na nic moje doświadczenie zawodowe, przecież powinienem złowić wiele ryb”. W naszym życiu takie myśli pojawiają się nader często: zatroskanie związane z małą efektywnością naszych wysiłków w domu, w zakładzie pracy, w nauce. Siedzimy więc nad naszym jeziorem Genezaret i przeżywamy rozczarowanie...

Na szczęście apostoł nie poprzestał w rozmyślaniach na zatroskaniu czy zniechęceniu. Wprawdzie jako fachowiec zdawał sobie sprawę, że polecenie Jezusa, by ponownie wypłynąć, jest absurdalne. On wiedział, że takie działanie nic nie zmieni. Jezus przecież nie znał się na rybactwie. Co jednak czyni św. Piotr? Wbrew rozsądkowi wpływa ponownie, ponieważ potrafi być posłuszny, potrafi wsłuchać się w słowa Jezusa. Podobne myśli towarzyszą współczesnemu człowiekowi. Jakże często słyszy się pogląd: „Co Kościół będzie się wtrącał w nasze prywatne życie; nie zna się na tym. To ja jestem specjalistą od mojej rodziny, żony, dzieci!”. Dzisiaj Chrystus mówi: „Zaufaj, spróbuj jeszcze raz!”, choć może się to wydawać bezsensowne i niedorzeczne.

Święty Piotr wpływa i wraca z siecią pełną ryb. I co wtedy mógł odczuwać? Niewątpliwie był zafascynowany mądrością i wielkością Jezusa. Podziwiał Go. Okazało się, że to, co do niedawna było niemożliwe, stało się rzeczywistością. Jeśli czegoś nam potrzeba, to właśnie fascynacji Bogiem, a nie tym, co niesie współczesna cywilizacja w jej wymiarze konsumpcyjnym.

W księgarniach można znaleźć dziesiątki poradników dotyczących szczęśliwego życia. Gdyby człowiek postępował według tych „rewelacyjnych” porad, w wielu przypadkach jeszcze bardziej czułby się zagubiony. A może trzeba na nowo zafascynować się Bożym słowem, nauką Chrystusa, który mówi: „Kochaj”.

A jak kończy się dzisiejsza Ewangelia? Święty Piotr kłęk przed Chrystusem, mając świadomość, że nie zasłużył na tak wielką łaskę i bliskość z Nim. A zatem jeśli chcemy tak jak on zobaczyć w naszym życiu cuda, na przykład cud przebaczenia, cud nowej szansy danej komuś z najbliższych, potrzeba nam pokory i cierpliwości. Bóg wcześniej czy później ukaże swoją wszechmoc. Chrystus podpowie, kiedy – mówiąc symbolicznie – zarzucić sieć, żeby nasze działania zakończyły się sukcesem, aby zwyciężyć, aby praca zawodowa, nauka czy życie rodzinne przynosiły owoce.

Wielu z nas przeżywa takie wieczory, kiedy przychodzi do domu po ciężkiej pracy i myśli: „Znowu się nie udało”. Dzisiejsza Ewangelia podtrzymuje nadzieję, pokazując, że człowiek jest powołany do zwycięstwa. Mając przed oczami scenę nad jeziora Genezaret, pamiętajmy o słowach św. Pawła, którego perypetie życiowe są tak bliskie każdemu z nas: „Przez nią [Ewangelię] również będziecie zbawieni, jeżeli ją zachowacie tak, jak wam rozkazałem”.

Po raz ostatni w tym roku ukazuje nam Chrystusa-Dziecię.



PIZZA & SALAD LUNCHEON

The Saint Stephen's "Young at Heart" Senior Group will be holding a Pizza and Salad Luncheon, at their next meeting, on Monday, February 25th.

Tickets for the luncheon are \$8.00 each and they will be available in the narthex of the church next weekend, February 16th & 17th.

All members are encouraged to attend and new members are always welcome.

BABY BOTTLE PROJECT

Our parish is participating in the Baby Bottle Project benefiting The Women's Center of Greater Chicagoland.

This non-profit organization directly assists families experiencing crisis pregnancies by offering emotional, financial, material and spiritual support through counseling, clothing and monetary provisions, prayer and other aid.

We ask that you please fill a Baby Bottle with your spare change, and return this weekend, February 9th and 10th or next weekend, February 16th and 17th.

Thank you for supporting The Women's Center of Greater Chicagoland.



BAPTISMAL PREPARATION CLASS

Our Baptismal Preparation Class for the month of February will take place on Thursday, February 21st at 7PM.

We remind all parents planning on having their child/children baptized that they must attend a Baptismal Preparation Class prior to their child's baptism.

To register for the baptismal class, please go to our parish website, ststephentinley.com. For more information please contact the parish office, 708-342-2400.

WINTER WEATHER

The recent winter weather provides a double challenge for our parish. When ice, snow, severe cold or winter illness prevents parishioners from attending weekend Masses our Offertory suffers. This has a direct impact on the funds we have available each week to pay our bills and meet our payroll. The problem becomes even more complicated when we are faced with increased heating, salt and snow removal bills.

Any extra help that you can give is greatly appreciated. If you do have to miss Mass for illness or weather, please know how very grateful we are when you drop your Offertory gift off later in the week or include it with your next week's offering. This really helps us keep our budget balanced.



BAPTISM AND LENT

Lent is a season of penance and reflection for the entire community. It is meant to encourage all to take time to examine their conscience and determine how faithfully they have lived their baptismal vows. This reflection ought to be in the forefront of our Lenten experience. It is at the celebration of Easter and the weeks of Easter that the whole community traditionally welcomes new members into the community to join them on the path to holiness.



Lent is our desert time leading up to the waters of Baptism at Easter. We see in a lot of the prayer and scripture readings during the latter portion of Lent leading up to Holy Week and Easter are about baptism.

The Sundays of Lent are really preparing the entire community for the waters of Baptism at Easter because we are walking along with those who are preparing for Baptism for the first time. Lent itself was created in the first place as a final stage of retreat for those who would be baptized at the Easter Vigil.

Because Lent in its rituals, scriptures, history, and place in parish life is oriented toward the celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil, the Sacrament of Baptism will not be celebrated during Lent. The baptism of infants is also far more fitting during the Easter season. We will resume our celebrations of Baptism after Easter. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6th, so the last Sunday available for Baptisms will be Sunday, March 3rd.

MARDI GRAS PARTY



Our parish will be sponsoring a Mardi Gras Party on Saturday, March 2nd. The Mardi Gras Party will be held in the Parish Life Center.

The evening will begin with a buffet dinner served from 6PM until 7:30PM. Cost of the dinner is \$15 per person.

There will also be live entertainment from 8PM until 11PM. For those not attending the dinner the cost of admission will be \$5.00 and refreshments will be available for purchase.

More information about the Mardi Gras Party will be available in the near future. We hope everyone will join us for this pre-Lenten celebration.

SAVE THE DATE!

We ask everyone to mark their calendars and plan on joining us for our annual Saint Joseph's Dinner, which will be held on Saturday, March 23rd. Watch the upcoming bulletins for further details.





MEN'S CLUB

The Saint Stephen's Men's Club will be holding their monthly meeting this Wednesday, February 13th, at 7:30PM, in the parish meeting rooms #125-#126. Membership is open to all men of the parish 21 and over.

The Men's Club of Saint Stephen functions as a means of fellowship for the men in our parish community. They come together to share their God given talents and time. The Men's Club has an active agenda that includes supporting our parish.

If you would like to become a member, please join us at our meeting on Wednesday.

LADIES SOCIAL CLUB

The Ladies Social Club will be holding their next meeting will take place this Monday, February 11th, at 10AM, in the parish conference room, weather permitting. In case of bad weather, please contact the parish office to see if the meeting has been cancelled.



At the meeting our very own Maureen Patula will show us how to decorate mugs for Valentine's Day. There is no charge involved.

Feel free to join us for a pleasant hour of coffee and fellowship. Come join us to make some new friends and meet an old friend or two.

Our group is open to all adult women in our area. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Dianne Przybylski at 708/614-7724. We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.



HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT BECOMING A DEACON?

**Deacons
Called
To Serve**

Are you interested in inquiring about becoming a deacon for the Archdiocese of Chicago?

Please join the Institute for Diaconal Studies on Sunday, March 24, 2019 at 12:45p.m. at St. Damian, Oak Forest. The Exploring the Diaconate session will take place at the Pastoral Center, Franciscan Room (Basement).

Directors of the Institute will welcome you and discuss all aspects of the archdiocese's deacon formation program, including application requirements and all elements of the formation journey. Wives of potential applicants are welcome and urged to attend.

For more information, contact Deacon Bob Puhala, bpuhala@usml.edu or 847-837-4564.

QUEEN OF HEARTS WEEKLY WINNERS

Week #1 - John Riel #4
Two of Hearts

Week #2 - Janice Davis #17
Three of Spades

Week #3 - Toni Raetz - #27 Three of Clubs



Ministry of Care

MINISTRY OF CARE TO THE HOMEBOUND

Jesus said: "I am the Bread of Life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in Me will never thirst."

The Ministry of Care to the homebound brings Communion to the sick or disabled of our parish. The Ministers of Care represent Christ and manifest faith and charity on behalf of our whole parish community. For the homebound, the reception of Communion represents a sign of support that our parish community has for all its members.

The Eucharist that is brought to the homebound is an extension of the Eucharistic celebration at our Sunday Masses. The obligation and desire to visit and comfort those who cannot take part in the Mass is clearly demonstrated by being "sent forth" with the Eucharist to our homebound parishioners.

If you are homebound or know someone who is homebound and would like one of our Ministers of Care to bring the Eucharist to you, please call the parish office.

"JOYFUL AGAIN"

"Joyful Again!" is a spiritual program for widowed men and women who want to resolve the normal grief they feel and begin to live again. This self-help process toward healing is fostered by trained volunteers who have experienced the pain of loss themselves and have moved forward in their healing journey.



The program has been created for those who have been widowed four months or more. Though there is a religious basis to the presentations, persons of any religious affiliation are welcome to attend. If you are widowed, you are invited to be a part of this weekend especially designed to help you recognize new direction for your life while still treasuring memories of your loved one. Yes, you can be "Joyful Again!"

The next "Joyful Again Weekend" will take place on March 9th and 10th, at the Our Lady of the Angels House of Prayer, located on the campus of Alvernia Manor, 13820 Main Street, in Lemont, Illinois. Pre-registration is required. To make a reservation or for more information, please call 708-354-7211 or email them at joyfulagain7211@gmail.com



BASKETBALL OPEN GYMS

The Saint Stephen's Men's Club is hosting Basketball Open Gyms on Tuesday Nights from 7:00PM - 8:30PM, in the Parish Life Center .

Join fellow parishioners, 21 years and older, on in the Parish Life Center for pickup basketball games. \$5 each for all players - Must be 21 years old or older and a parishioner of St. Stephen's Parish. For additional information or contact Men's Club Member - Jim Westerberg (708)-299-2681.



SAINT VALENTINE

On February 14th, around the year 278 A.D., Valentine, a holy priest in Rome in the days of Emperor Claudius II, was executed.

Under the rule of "Claudius the Cruel," Rome was involved in many unpopular and bloody campaigns. The emperor had to maintain a strong army, but was having a difficult time getting soldiers to join his military leagues.

Claudius believed that Roman men were unwilling to join the army because of their strong attachment to their wives and families.

To get rid of the problem, Claudius banned all marriages and engagements in Rome. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret.

When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death. Valentine was arrested and dragged before the Prefect of Rome, who condemned him to be beaten to death with clubs and to have his head cut off. The sentence was carried out on February 14th, on or about the year 278. For his great service, Valentine was named a saint after his death.

Legend also has it that while in jail, St. Valentine left a farewell note for the jailer's daughter, who had become his friend, and signed it "From Your Valentine."

In truth, the exact origins and identity of St. Valentine are unclear.

Legends vary on how the martyr's name became connected with romance. The date of his death may have become mingled with the Feast of Lupercalia, a pagan festival of love. On these occasions, the names of young women were placed in a box, from which they were drawn by the men as chance directed.

In 496 AD, Pope Gelasius decided to put an end to the Feast of Lupercalia, and he declared that February 14th be celebrated as St Valentine's Day. Gradually, February 14th became a date for exchanging love messages, poems and simple gifts such as flowers or candy.

Saint Valentine is the Patron Saint of engaged couples, bee keepers, engaged couples, epilepsy, fainting, greetings, happy marriages, love, lovers, travelers, and young people.

HEALING & RECONCILIATION

The Archdiocese has created <https://heal.archchicago.org/> to share the actions they have taken, as well as our ongoing work to address clergy sexual abuse, ensure leadership accountability and protect and support victim-survivors and their loved ones.



The website includes resources for victim-survivors, instructions for reporting a sexual abuse allegation, frequently asked questions about our policies, procedures and practices, as well as public statements made by Cardinal Cupich and other church leaders.

GATTO'S FUNDRAISER

Don't Forget- Gatto's, 8005 183rd Street, in Tinley Park, is sponsoring St. Stephen's Nights, on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month. Stop by Gatto's and mention St. Stephens to the server, and the Men's Club will get a donation of 20% of the pre-tax bill.



All proceeds from these nights go back to the church through ministry donations and needs of the Parish Life Center.

If you are interested in finding out more about the St. Stephen Men's Club, email Curt Beringer, Secretary curtberinger12@gmail.com



YOUR TAX RETURN TELLS YOU HOW GENEROUS YOU REALLY ARE

Before you file your tax return away for the year, you might want to take a minute to determine what percentage you are giving away. Jesus told us, "Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more." (Luke 12:48)

Your tax return tells you not only how much income God has entrusted to you last year, but also what portion you gave away. Simply take your total charitable contribution and divide by your total gross income. Move the decimal point over two places. This is the percentage you gave away last year. Are you pleased with that number? If not, make plans now to improve your giving in 2019.

Example: Total income is \$42,653. Charitable contributions are \$1,250. \$1,250 divided by \$42,653 equals .0293. Move the decimal and see that the percent that was given to charity was 2.9%.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PALLIATIVE & HOSPICE CARE



Palliative and Hospice care offer compassionate care to patients with life limiting illnesses.

Bernie Crean, MSN, ANP-BC, ACHPN
Director of Palos Home Health Services

Barbara Carroll, RN, BSN, CHPN, Hospice Manager
Kathy Beary, RN, BSN, Caregiver Resource Center will present information to help individuals and families know the difference.

MONDAY, February 25, 6:50pm
ST. DAMIAN SCHOOL
5300 155th Street, Oak Forest, IL
SHAW HALL

Queen of Hearts Raffle **QUEEN OF HEARTS RAFFLE**



The excitement of the "Queen of Hearts" Raffle has come to Saint Stephen. Our "Queen of Hearts"

The "Queen of Hearts" Raffle is a split ticket raffle with the pot being split between the winner and our parish. The Queen of Hearts raffle puts the 54 cards in a deck, including the two jokers, onto a board face down in no particular order. Then the cards are numbered 1-54. With every chance, a purchaser gets to write a number between 1 and 54 on the ticket. That ticket goes into a drum.

Every Wednesday, a drawing will be held at 8:00PM, at the Side Street American Tavern, 18401 North Creek Drive, in Tinley Park. .

If your ticket is drawn, you must pick the Queen of Hearts on the Raffle board to win the pot. If the winning ticket holder has selected the number that reveals the Queen of Hearts, the winner gets 50% of the available pot.

If you are not present at the drawing, you must declare a numbered card from the board and write the number on your raffle ticket stub. If you do not choose a number or if the number you choose had been previously selected, you will be assigned the lowest available number on the board, (i.e., if the number 1 is available you will be assigned #1, if #1 has been selected already you will be assigned #2, etc.)

If the Queen of Hearts is not drawn, the pot will roll over to the next week. The pot will continue to build until the Queen of Hearts is drawn. The game could take up to 54 weeks.

If your ticket is drawn and you draw a card other than the Queen of Hearts, you receive \$25.00 in tickets for the following week or if it is a face card you will win \$50.00.

Tickets are sold in a set of 6 tickets for \$5.00. They will not be sold separately. This is a progressive raffle. All raffle tickets will be discarded following the drawing each week and new tickets must be purchased to enter into the following week's drawing. The ticket purchaser must be 18 years of age or older. There can be only one name per ticket. The ticket must contain your name and the card # you choose to pick.

Tickets will be available before and after all the weekend Masses in the narthex of the church. They will also be available at the parish and religious education offices and they will be available at the Side Street American Tavern.

All funds raised through the raffle will be used to help pay down the outstanding debt on the church building and parish life center. Your support of this raffle is appreciated.

2019 Annual Catholic Appeal **"Come, Follow Me... and Share the Word"**

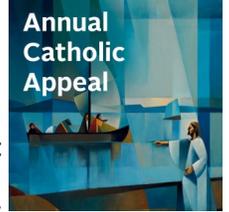
Many families in our parish will be receiving the Annual Catholic Appeal request mailing from Cardinal Cupich. On behalf of those served by the ministries, parishes, and schools who receive funding from the Appeal, we thank you for your gifts. Please return your response as soon as possible.

The Annual Catholic Appeal offers a wonderful opportunity to answer Jesus' call to "Come, Follow Me... and share the Word."

In addition to providing for ministries and services throughout the Archdiocese, the Appeal also funds services that are of great help here in our Parish. For example, Appeal funds support our new Parish Life Center.

As we contemplate God's many gifts to us, we should also reflect on our gratitude. Your financial support for the work of our Parish, our Archdiocese, and the Church throughout the world is one way to express this gratitude. Please give generously to the 2019 Annual Catholic Appeal.

When our parish reaches its goal of \$71,312.00 in paid pledges, all additional funds contributed will be returned to us for use in our Parish.



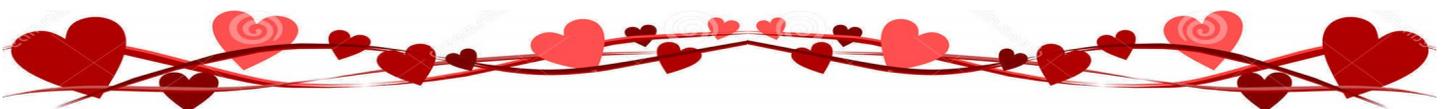
THE CATHOLIC LEAGUE FOR RELIGIOUS ASSISTANCE TO POLAND AND POLONIA ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT SCHOLARSHIPS

Bishop Andrew P. Wypych, in the name of the Catholic League for Religious Assistance to Poland and Polonia, announces with great joy, that six students of Polonia already have been benefiting from the scholarships from the Liga.

For the academic year of 2019-2020, ten St. John Paul the Great scholarships of \$5,000 each, will be awarded to selected students of Polonia, in the pilot region encompassing Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin.

We congratulate the recent recipients and their families and now invite students of Polish descent, who are active in their parish and participating in Polonia organizations, that partnered with Liga, to apply for the Saint John Paul the Great scholarship for the academic year of 2019-2020.

Applications and supporting documents are being accepted now through March 15, 2019. For further details regarding eligibility, selection criteria, and a downloadable application please visit www.catholicleaguepolonia.org





Rev. Tom Bernas
Saint Stephen Deacon and Martyr
17500 84th Ave
Tinley Park, IL 60487

Dear Father Tom,

The Board of Advisors of Catholic Charities in the Southwest Region annually recognizes a Catholic parish or lay group or person whose dedication has made a significant difference in the lives of the people we serve.

Pope Francis reminds us that "Jesus taught us that he who commands must become like one who serves. Or, if one wants to be first he must be the servant of all,"

I am very pleased to inform you that Saint Stephen Deacon and Martyr have been selected to receive this year's **Parish Partner Award**.

The award will be presented by Monsignor Boland President and CEO of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago on Saturday March 9, 2019 during our annual Helping Hands Dinner which will be held at the Silver Lake Country Club located in Orland Park, Illinois.

Thank you again and we look forward to honoring you at this year's event.

Sincerely,

Tim Richards
Southwest Regional Advisory Chair
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago

THE CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
Southwest Regional Services
12731 S. Wood Street • Blue Island IL 60406
Telephone 708.430.0428 • Fax 708.430.0502



The Catholic Charities Southwest Regional Advisory Board presents their 21st Annual "Helping Hands Dinner & Auction" on Saturday, March 9, 2019, at 6:00 pm. The event will be held at Silver Lakes Country Club, 14700 82nd Avenue in Orland Park.

The event benefits Catholic Charities programs that provide comprehensive services to the poor and disadvantaged in the Southwest suburbs. Reservations are \$75 per person, or a table for ten is \$750. Sponsorships are also available. Please call Christopher Torres at 708-430-0428 for more information or to make reservations.



ARE YOU A REGISTERED PARISHIONER?

Are you a registered parishioner? Have you been attending Saint Stephen's for a while but haven't yet registered in your own name? Have you been looking for a parish to call your own but haven't made the commitment yet?

Did you know that demographic studies estimate that more than 1/3 of all Catholics are **not** registered in a parish? **If you are not registered in our parish, please consider doing so.** Also, please encourage your friends and family to register!

What makes a person a parishioner? You are not a parishioner because your parents go here. You are not a parishioner because you went to Religious Education here. You are not a parishioner just because you come to Mass here or were married here.

If you attend Mass here regularly, and if you are an adult (18 or older) Catholic, we encourage you to register as a member of our faith community. Registering in the parish is a declaration of your desire to be a part of the Catholic community and to make a commitment to the life of the parish. Stating your commitment brings many advantages, recognition and responsibility.

Registering in the parish also makes the process much easier when it is time for infant baptism, religious education registration, weddings and when you are asked to be a sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation and formal documentation of your parishioner status is being requested.

To begin the registration process, please contact the parish office at 708-342-2400. We hope that, once you have registered, you will consider the many opportunities to get involved in the parish.

WELCOME AMAZONSMILE!

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support our parish every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, including Amazon Prime member benefits, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to our parish.



To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile. You can directly access our site directly by going to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-4332277>

So when you shop at Amazon, don't forget to select St. Stephen's as the recipient of your AmazonSmile donations. For more information, please go to smile.amazon.com

ARE YOU MOVING?

Every month we receive back many mailings from the post office for parishioners who have moved, either within the parish or out of the parish, and have not notified us.



These return mailings are costly to us. We have to pay the postage to mail them and then a fee to have them returned.

We need your help! If you move, we ask that you notify the parish office in a timely manner. We would want to keep our files as current as possible.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL



If you, your family or someone close to you is in need, please contact us at (708) 342-2400, extension 205, and leave a message.

A representative will return your call as soon as possible to arrange a confidential conversation. Confidentiality and compassion are the cornerstones of our Ministry.

ADULT FUNERAL ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

Are you looking for something to do in your spare time? Looking to serve the Lord in a very special way? Well then, being an altar server for a funeral mass at Saint Stephen's is the ministry for you!



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Altar Servers

Men and women are needed. You will assist the Priest during funeral Masses. Their presence enhances the reverence of the Mass of the Resurrection for deceased members of our parish. In times of grief and loss the precious rituals and traditions of our faith bring comfort and stability. Adult Altar Servers extend that support to the bereaved gathered around the Altar. Ministers work in teams of two.

If you are interested in this ministry you will be trained by an experienced server until you are comfortable in the role. If you feel the Lord calling you to this ministry, please call parish office at 708-342-2400. Thanks for considering this ministry!

CATHOLIC CHARITIES MATERNITY & ADOPTION SERVICES



Pregnant? There are options. What do I do? Who should I tell? It's scary. You can turn to us. Catholic Charities Maternity & Adoption Services has resources to serve teens, single women, and couples facing unplanned pregnancies. We are here to help, without pressuring you. We can talk about your options as you plan for your child's future. We can help you whether you decide to parent your child or make a plan of adoption.

If you are not sure what to do, our 24-hour hotline has caring and professional counselors available to help you. Our services are free and confidential. Call 1 (800) CARE-002 or (312) 454-1717.

STEWARDSHIP

February 10, 2019 - 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
'Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?'
'Here I am,' I said, 'send me!'" (Isaiah 6:8)*

Every day, in little ways and in big ways, God asks, "Whom shall I send?" Whether it is someone to take on a new ministry, to give a friendly smile to a stranger or say a word of encouragement to a friend, God constantly provides opportunities to help someone in need. The next time you hear God calling, have the courage to walk through the door and say "Here I am, Lord."

PARISH SUPPORT

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 GiveCentral.org. More information on how to make electronic donations is available at the back of the bulletin or on our website www.ststephentinley.com

<u>Collections</u>	1-27-2019
Regular Sunday	\$17,040.00
Sharing	\$287.00
Parish Life Center	\$200.00
CJB Angel Fund	\$778.00
Saint Vincent de Paul	\$100.00
Total	\$18,405.00

Sunday and Holy Day Collections

<u>2018-2019</u>	<u>January 2018</u>	<u>Fiscal Year to Date</u>
Actual	\$106,945	\$832,997
Budget	\$120,000	\$895,000
Surplus/(Shortfall)	(\$13,055)	(\$62,003)

GIVING GREENER

Are you trying to cut down on the paper you use? Is the check you write to our parish one of the few checks that you write anymore?



Online Giving

You can give greener by using our Online Giving Program. Simply go to our parish website at ststephentinley.com. You can set up the amount that you would like to give on a schedule that meets your needs and you never have to worry about writing another check, forgetting your envelope, or having cash in your wallet.

Our parish greatly appreciates all those who choose to give in this manner as it helps us maintain a consistent cash flow and pay all of our bills in a timely manner.

Creation Care Corner

*Taking action to protect God's great gift to us,
Mother Earth*



"Let ours be a time remembered for... the firm resolve to achieve sustainability... and the joyful celebration of life."

— Pope Benedict XVI

The next Care Team Meeting is Monday, Feb 11, 7-8:30pm, in the Gubbins Center (NE corner of 167th St. and 94th Ave.). All are invited.

THIS WEEK'S STEWARDSHIP RECOMMENDATION: Be Salt Wise This Winter.

Salt can infiltrate and permanently pollute groundwater and streams. Use the minimal amount.

- Shovel** - Clear walkways and other areas before the snow turns to ice.
- Scatter** - If you use salt, scatter it so that there is space between the grains. A 12-ounce coffee mug of salt is enough to treat an entire 20-foot driveway.
- Switch** - When pavement temperatures drop below 15 degrees, salt won't work. Switch to sand for traction or a different ice melter that works at lower temperatures (i.e., Calcium chloride).
- Store Correctly** - Store ice melting products in airtight containers to maintain maximum effectiveness. For information, visit: www.wisaltwise.com.

OUR VOLUNTEERS ARE VALUABLE

We have always known that the many parishioners who volunteer to serve in our various parish organizations and ministries are most valuable. Now we have confirmation. Based on the average hourly wage, experts currently estimate that one hour of volunteer time is worth \$17.55.

However, to us your volunteer time is **invaluable**. Through the gifts of time and talent that our parishioners so generously share we are able to truly be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ.

Many thanks to all those faithful and generous stewards who volunteer in our parish! Your time is worth everything to us!



**Thanks
to Our
Volunteers!**

Meetings/Events

Sunday, February 10th

- Baby Nursing Room #153
- Narthex - Queen of Hearts Raffle Ticket Sales after all Masses - Narthex
- Respect Life Baby Bottle Return Weekend
- Shawl Ministry Shawl Distribution
- 10AM - Grade 6 Mass
- 3pm - Baptism
- 3:30pm - Living Stations Practice #125/126 & Church

Monday, February 11th

- 10AM - Ladies Social Club
- Religious Ed 4:15—5:30pm; 6-7:15pm
- 4pm—8pm Queen of Hearts Ticket Sales Parish Office
- 7:30PM - Finance Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 12th

- Religious Ed 4:15—5:30pm; 6-7:15pm
- 10:30am—Moms and Tots #156
- 4pm - 8pm Queen of Hearts Ticket Sales Parish Office
- 6pm - Youth Ministry Youth Room & Bible Study
- 7:30PM - Rosary - Daily Mass Chapel

Wednesday, February 13th

- Religious Ed 4:15—5:30pm; 6-7:15pm
- 4PM - 7PM Queen of Hearts Ticket Sales Parish Office
- 6PM - Men's Club Meeting
- 8PM - Queen of Hearts Drawing - Side Street American Tavern

Thursday, February 14th

- 4:30pm—Children's Choir Church
- 4pm—8pm—Queen of Hearts Ticket Sales Parish Office
- 5PM - Catholic Charities Meals Program
- 6pm - Youth Ministry Youth Room & PLC (Open Gym)
- 6:30PM - Benediction - Daily Mass Chapel

Friday, February 15th

- 8:45am - Scripture Study #126
- 4pm—8pm - Queen of Hearts Ticket Sales Parish Office
- 8PM Polish A.A. Meeting - Room #161

Saturday, February 16th

- Baby nursing #153
- Narthex—Queen of Hearts Raffle Ticket Sales after 5PM Mass - Narthex
- Respect Life Baby Bottle Return Weekend
- 8:00AM - A.A. Meeting - Room 158-159
- 12pm - 5pm - Queen of Hearts Ticket Sales Parish Office



Greeter Schedule February 16th—17th

Saturday 5 PM	Sunday 8:30 AM	Sunday 10 AM	Sunday 11:30 AM
Beck, Joan	Mitus, Tom	Losey, Chris	Kluchins, Judy
Berger, Mary	O'Donnell, Jim	Losey, Mark	Mueller, Charlene
Coughlin, Jean	Simosky, Flo	McCauley, Sean	Packert, Lynn

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

O loving and gracious God, Father of all,
 You bless your people in every time and season
 And provide for their needs through your providential care.
 Your Church is continually in need of priests,
 sisters, brothers, and lay ministers, to offer themselves
 in the service of the Gospel by lives of dedicated love.
 Open the hearts of your sons and daughters
 to listen to your call in their lives.
 Give them the gift of understanding
 to discern your invitation to serve you and your Church.
 Give them the gift of courage to follow your call.
 May they have the spirit of young Samuel who
 found fulfillment in his life when he said to you,
 "Speak Lord, for your servant is listening."
 We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer.
 Amen.



Prayer Requests

Parishioners' names will be read 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.

To be added to our prayer list, please contact the Parish Office. Parishioners who are hospitalized and in need of Pastoral Care should contact the Parish Office.

Mass Intentions



Please pray for those who are sick and in need of healing from our Divine Healer:

Time	Intention	Requested by:
Monday, February 11th		
8:00am	Ed Rice Julio Bersamin Tony Calcaterra	Connie Rice Julie Lacerna Michael Cachey Family
Tuesday, February 12th		
8:00am	Roger Johnson Lillian Mlynarski Lottie Szkodzinski	Family Mr & Mrs John Sokol
Wednesday, February 13th		
8:00am	Don Daley Joseph P. Pocco Commander Paul Bauer	Bern Daley & Family Joseph Karczewski Pat Madden
Thursday, February 14th		
8:00am	Joan Balis John Lynch Sam LaMargo	Family Margaret Lynch Lucy LaMargo
Friday, February 15th		
8:00am	Kevin O'Donnell Ligaya Deak Robert L. Polit	Family Family & Friends Adult Altar Servers
Saturday, February 16th		
8:00am	Purgatorial Society Dolores Kwiecinski Gloria Renderman	Eleanor Zapolis Adult Altar Servers Mary Tafoya
5:00pm	Joann Matthes Charlie Freed & Chuck Blunk Anna O'Driscoll Jim Dwyer Bary Boyle	Jennie Freed Keith & Sharon Grill Marilyn Dwyer Bridget Boyle
Sunday, February 17th		
7:00am	Juliana Boudreau Parishioners of St. Stephen	Jerry & Ruth Eszinger
8:30am	Raymond Norbot Luke & Mary Marren	Family Family
10:00am	Halina Kelso-Leonard Thomas Rogan Richard Lindenmeyer	Family Family Barbara O'Connell
11:30am	Toni Rafferty Byron Grober	Parish Worship Team Wife & Son
1:00pm	Mary Wozniak	Family
6:15pm	Nancy Jaraczewski Stephen Pasco	Family Mr & Mrs Lenkiewicz

Lily Acosta Maria Ariza Kristen Baldyga Kristen Caldwell Peggy Castro Joanne Chess Mike & Sharon Clavio Dan Clausen Karen Cole Matt Creen Joanne Chess Ken Dellorto Mary DeSuno Bridget Dougal Francis Foley Rich Frain Kathleen Gallegos Bill Galvin Sharon Grill Sgt. Evan Grober Ryan Grybas Larry Hersh Arlene Kezon Steve Kizaric Rex Knapp	Margaret Kulpinski Howard Kuzelka Dawn Leslie William Moser Susan Naccarato Dave Newquist Tim O'Connell Stacie Pavalon Lentz Rosemary Pagliero Pearl Paul Deacon Pablo Perez Joseph & Sandra Piccolo DorisAnn Ramirez Joy Renje Joe and Joan Ricciuti Joe & Terri Schulte Don Schmidt Natalie Sims Gene Skowronski Chester Sterczek Rachel Swallow Louis Tassone Stella Wiederski Michael Wilkins
--	--

Please pray for those from our parish who are on active duty in the military



Lt. Michael Balcerzak L/Cpl Benjamin Brasher Capt. Anthony J. Cesaro Major Vincent Cesaro Capt. Michael Chimienti PV2 Joseph Clavio Lt. Dylan Conover LCMR Amanda Griffith Jacob Elliott USN Sgt. Evan Grober	Capt. Michael Gryczka Lt. Dan Kniaz Tsgt. Laura Langley Ssgt. Carl Langley Sgt. Joseph Malone Capt. Christopher Mazurek Sgt. Matthew O'Boyle Lt. Elizabeth Ernst-Signore LCDR Marilyn Walsh Major Thomas Walsh
--	---

Ways to Support the Ministry of St. Stephen Parish

- **GiveCentral**—Through www.GiveCentral.org parishioners can make automatic donations at the time and frequency they chose. Donating through GiveCentral is a way to simplify your giving and is environmental friendly. Signing up only takes a few minutes. Go to our parish website www.ststephentinley.com and click on the Donate Now button at the bottom of the page. Donations through GiveCentral are processed via your credit card or bank card and at the frequency you choose.
- **Electronic Donations**—St. Stephen accepts electronic donations through Byline Bank. To begin this method of donating, you will need to complete and sign the authorization form and attached a voided check, and bring the items to the Parish Office. The authorization form is located on our website under Support/Sunday Giving.
- **Envelopes**—Registered parishioners can also choose to receive weekly envelopes. Envelope packets are mailed out every other month.
- **Wills and Trusts**—Please consider remembering St. Stephen Parish through your will or trust. Details area available on our website.

Bulletin Submissions

If your parish group or ministry would like to submit a bulletin article, please send your submissions to the following email address: bulletin@ststephentinley.com Our deadline for submissions is the Wednesday, 11 days prior to the bulletin's publication date. Please include a contact name, email address, and phone number when making a submission.

Don't forget to get your "Queen of Hearts" Tickets!!!

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