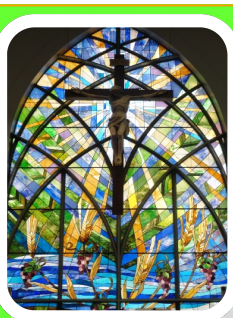


St. Stephen Deacon & Martyr Catholic Church

17500 84th Avenue, Tinley Park, Illinois 60487
708-342-2400

September 1, 2019
Twenty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time

WHEN YOU HOLD A BANQUET,
INVITE THE POOR, THE CRIPPLED,
THE LAME, THE BLIND.

Luke 14:13

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 | Sunday 9:30am—1:00pm

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. Thomas A. 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
Laura Uher

Adult Formation
Barbara Black

Communications

Maintenance Director

Director of Music and Liturgy
David Boyle

Morning Receptionist
Noreen Galvin

Director of Religious Education
Sandi Morgan
Assoc. Director of Religious Ed.
Leslie Krauledis
Religious Ed. Admin. Assistant
Dee Zvejnieks
Religious Education Secretary

CJB Interim Principal
James Antos
CJB Admissions Director
Cynthia Labriola Devlin

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

Baptisms are celebrated every Sunday at 3pm in English and 1pm in Polish. Baptisms can also be celebrated with the Parish Family at one of our weekend Masses. Please contact Fr. Tom in the parish office for the necessary preparations. A baptism preparation class is required to have your child baptized at St. Stephen's. New parishioners are required to register.

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 parish office.

Marriages - St. Stephen's Parish welcomes the celebration of the weddings of both registered parishioners and the children of registered parishioners. For more information, please contact the parish office.

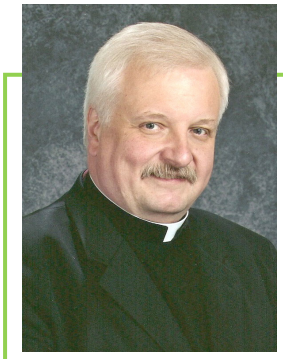
Confessions - Saturdays after the 8AM Mass or by appointment.

New parishioners are invited to register:

- After the 10am Mass on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of every month.
- At 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's 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,

Meals played an important role in the society in which Jesus lived. More than a time for sharing nourishment, they were a time to share ideas and to model different aspects of social relationships. In Luke's Gospel, the places that a person ate (at the home of a tax collector), the people with whom a person ate (sinners), whether a person washed before eating, and, as is the case here, the place that a person sits while eating are all important. The narrator says Jesus tells a parable, but it is really wise advice to both guests and hosts about finding true happiness at the heavenly banquet.

Jesus warns guests to wait before taking their places at the table lest they be asked to move if someone more important arrives. This is more than just a lesson about dinner etiquette. It is advice on how to find your true place in the Kingdom of God. Jesus advises hosts not to invite people who would be expected to repay them to dinner but to invite those who could not repay: the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. This is where real blessings can be found.

In these sayings, Luke gives us not only advice on how to approach the end times but also on how to live according to Jesus' vision of a good society. Luke's Gospel also advises us how the Church must be part of bringing about this society. It is yet another example in Luke's Gospel of the reversal the kingdom brings about.

Tomorrow, Monday, we as a nation celebrate Labor Day. To many Americans, Labor Day marks the end of the summer, a day off from work and school, and one last chance to relax. But Labor Day is much more than just a day off. It represents a very important victory for laborers everywhere. The holiday is a celebration of the social and economic achievements of American workers. The Labor Day holiday has evolved over a period of years. In 19th century America, there was already a tradition of having parades, picnics and various other celebrations in support of labor issues, such as shorter hours or to rally strikers. But most historians emphasize one specific event in the development of today's modern Labor Day; that pivotal event was the parade of unions and a massive picnic that took place in New York City on Sept. 5, 1882.

Labor Day as a national, legal holiday had an interesting evolution. The legalized celebration of Labor Day began as individual state celebrations. In 1887, New York, New Jersey and Colorado were among the first states to approve state legal holidays. Then other states joined in to create their own state Labor Days. Finally, in response to a groundswell of support for a national holiday celebrating the nation's workers, Sen. James Henderson Kyle of South Dakota introduced Senate Bill 730 to the 53rd Congress to make Labor Day a legal holiday on the first Monday of September each year. It was approved on June 28, 1894.

We are at the "Football Mania "Two Minute Warning." There are just a few days left to purchase your "Football Mania" tickets. So don't delay, stop by this weekend and get your ticket to 17 weeks of fun. There will be $900 in cash prizes awarded each week. The cost of the ticket is just $20, and that ticket is good for all seventeen weeks of the NFL regular season. So why not take a chance and join our team for "Football Mania." Tickets are available after all our Masses this weekend in the narthex of our church. Stop by and get yours today!

Last Sunday we held our annual Parish Picnic. It was a wonderful day. The weather was perfect, and the food was delicious. I am sure that everyone had a great time. I would like to thank the Polish Community for all their hard work and effort in helping with the planning, preparing and working at the picnic. A special thanks goes to all those who worked so hard in preparing the delicious food that was served at the picnic. I would also like to thank all those who made donations towards the picnic. Your generosity and support is much appreciated. And finally our thanks to the Tinley Park Police and Fire Departments for their participation in the picnic. Everyone loved looking at the fire truck and the Canine Officers demonstration was very exciting. Thank you everyone!!!

As we continue to look at enhancing our Religious Education Program for the children of our parish and offer them more opportunities to learn about our Lord and the traditions of our faith, we are looking at expanding our Children's Liturgy of the Word and our Growing with God Programs. You may be asking yourself what is Children's Liturgy of the Word and what is Growing with God? Children's Liturgy of the Word is a program in which the Sunday scripture readings are proclaimed and explained on a level appropriate to children in grades K-4 at the 10AM Sunday Mass, from September through May.

Growing With God is a Sunday School program for registered children ages 3, 4, and 5/6 (Kindergarten). The class is held during the entire 10 AM Mass. Children will color, do a craft, sing, and have a snack all while learning the meaning of the Gospel. They hear God's messages at their level while their parents and older siblings attend Mass.

Our goal is to offer both these programs on a weekly basis so that our children will have more opportunities to learn and grow in their faith. In order to offer this expanded and enhanced program to the children of our parish, we need volunteers who would be willing to assist us with these programs. I am asking you to please consider volunteering for the Children's Liturgy Program or Growing With God Program and embark upon an exciting journey of faith with the Children of St. Stephen. No special skills are needed, just a desire to inspire children with the Words of Christ. Training and materials are provided. With a large pool of volunteers, the time commitment could be one or two Sunday sessions a month. I ask you to please consider volunteering as a leader or an assistant. For more information about either program, please contact our parish office. Our children are the future and I need your help in sharing our faith with them. Will you help??

Hope you have a Great Labor Day Weekend!!!!

From Our Associate Pastor

EWANGELICZNY SAVOIR-VIVRE

Święta Teresa z Kalkuty pisała przed laty do swych córek duchowych: Najlepszym prawem jest Boże prawo miłości; największą mądrością umiejętność odnajdywania dobra pośród zła; najlepszym życiorysem jest życie pisane miłością; najlepszą dyplomacją jest traktat pokojowy z własnym sumieniem; najlepszą sztuką życia jest umiejętność zdobywania życia wiecznego poprzez dobre życie tu, na ziemi.

Nie jest to jednak łatwe, skoro coraz częściej nasze wybory, upodobania i zasady postępowania kształtują mass media. W 2003 roku opublikowano badania statystyczne dotyczące oglądalności telewizji i preferencji Polaków w dziedzinie programów. Okazało się, że średni czas oglądania telewizji w naszych domach w ciągu dnia już wtedy wynosił 198 minut (3 godziny i 18 minut). Nie jest to mało! W tym czasie można ulec ogromnej manipulacji z jednoczesnym uzależnieniem się od mediów. Niepokojące są więc wyniki badań, które pokazują, że 73% Polaków zawsze przed snem ogląda telewizję. Ponadto blisko 68% ankietowanych przyznaje, że szuka programów pozwalających zapomnieć o troskach. Ponad 67% Polaków przyznało, że odczuwałoby brak telewizora w domu. Ogromny niepokój budzi grupa 39% ankietowanych, którzy uważają oglądanie telewizji za ulubiony sposób spędzania czasu. Blisko jedna trzecia Polaków przyznaje się do praktyki niewyłączania telewizora przez cały dzień.

Jak widać, media stały się potężnym wychowawcą nie tylko młodego pokolenia, ale i dorosłych. Czyż zatem nie powinniśmy się otrząsnąć i sięgnąć do wskazań, które mają wymiar ponadczasowy i uniwersalny, aby przeciwdziałać medialnemu zniewoleniu?

W dzisiejszym fragmencie Ewangelii Chrystus, wykorzystując okoliczności uczty, podczas której zawsze w tradycji żydowskiej wygłaszało się mowy, ukazał zasady postępowania będące konsekwencją przełożenia wiary na życie. Wskazania Mistrza z Nazaretu w szczególny sposób stanowią odtrutkę na zalew medialny.

Najpierw Jezus z naciskiem naucza: „Każdy, kto się wywyższa, będzie poniżony, a kto się poniża, będzie wywyższony". Jasno widać, że Jezus wzywa do pokory, która przecież we współczesnym świecie, a szczególnie w mediach, stanowi zapomnianą i jednocześnie niechcianą cnotę. Odwołując się do obrazu uczty, Chrystus definiuje pokorę jako znajomość swojego miejsca. Człowiek pokorny potrafi poprzestać na małym, nie szuka zaszczytów, potrafi się nie narzucać. Jakże w tym miejscu nie przytoczyć przykładu św. Teresy z Lisieux, która pokorę ukazała w swoim życiu poprzez służbę i cierpienie. W ciągu całego życia nigdy nie szukała względów ludzkich, wręcz przeciwnie, czuła się niegodna wielu spotykanych osób. O znalezieniu swego miejsca tak pięknie mówił przed laty Prymas Tysiąclecia: „Człowiek dopiero wtedy jest w pełni szczęśliwy, gdy może służyć, a nie wtedy, gdy musi władać".

W dalszej części przemowy Chrystus wskazuje także na kolejną postawę, która powinna charakteryzować wierzącego człowieka. Mówi: „Nie zapraszaj, byś miał odpłatę". Tymi słowami zachęca nas do bezinteresowności, która przecież we współczesnych czasach stoi w opozycji do lansowanej przez media nieograniczonej konsumpcji. Istnieje takie greckie przysłowie, które dobrze koresponduje z Chrystusowym wezwaniem: „Nic nie zadowoli tych, których niewiele też nie zadowala". Bezinteresowność oznacza umiejętność poprzestania na małym, zrezygnowania z rewanżu. Polega także na zaniechaniu kalkulacji w kategoriach: opłacalne – nieopłacalne. Bezinteresowność domaga się ofiarności, a to z kolei wymaga dystansu do siebie i do tego, co się posiada. Święty Jan od Krzyża dobitnie to określił: „By dojść do posiadania wszystkiego, nie chciej posiadać czegokolwiek".

Tak właśnie żyła św. Teresa. Miała ona dystans do siebie i innych, stając w Kalkucie z przysłowiowym jednym dolarem, potrafiła stać się symbolem współczesnej posługi ubogim! Dlaczego? Odpowiedź jest prosta: była bezinteresowna. Mówiła przecież:

Nigdy nie wolno nam sądzić, że ktokolwiek spośród nas jest niezastąpiony. Bóg ma sposoby – może nadać zupełnie inny charakter czynnościom wykonywanym przez utalentowaną i sprawną siostrę. Bóg widzi tylko jej miłość. Można być wyczerpanym pracą, pracować do upadłego, ale dopóki nasza praca nie jest zespolona z miłością, jest bezużyteczna. Bóg nie potrzebuje takiej pracy.

Oprócz pokory i bezinteresowności Jezus ukazuje także trzecią postawę. Mówi do nas: „Odpłatę otrzymasz przy zmartwychwstaniu sprawiedliwych". Mistrz z Nazaretu zachęca do myślenia perspektywicznego. Chodzi więc o dokonywanie takich wyborów, które służą człowieczeństwu. Czyż nie jest to antidotum na bezkrytyczny odbiór programów telewizyjnych czy radiowych? Skąd jednak czerpać wzorce, aby nie pogubić się w swoich wyborach? Odpowiedź jest jednoznaczna: z Bożych przykazań!

Módlmy się, abyśmy umieli wybierać i rozróżniać, co służy, a co jest szkodliwe dla naszego życia, zdrowia, ducha. Uczyńmy to słowami św. Augustyna:

Niech odwrócę się od siebie, by skierować się wyłącznie ku Tobie.Ty bądź mi zawsze obrońcą. Niech mnie ogarnia lęk przed sobą, a bojaźń synowska przed Tobą, bym znalazł się wśród wybranych Twoich!

LABOR DAY

Tomorrow, Monday, we celebrate Labor Day. We invite everyone to join us for our special Labor Day Mass at 9AM in the church.

PARISH AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICES CLOSED

In observance of Labor Day, our Parish and Religious Education Offices will be closed tomorrow, Monday. We wish everyone a safe and restful Labor Day!

STUDENT REGISTRATIONS FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Families with children in grades 1-8 may register for the 2019-2020 program year by coming to the Religious Education Office between the hours of 8:30AM and 4:00PM, Monday –Thursday and Friday from 8:30AM to 12:00PM, or by going online to the parish website **www.ststephentinley.com** for the registration forms for 2019-2020.

Completed registration forms may be dropped off in the mailbox on the wall outside the religious education office in the evenings and on weekends when the office is closed.

2020 MASS INTENTIONS

The practice of requesting a Mass to be offered for loved ones, living or deceased, is a beautiful and wonderful part of our Catholic tradition.

Our 2020 Mass Intention Book is now open. Intentions will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. We ask that you bring a list of intentions desired (name of person to be remembered at the Mass and name of the person requesting the intention). The donation for each intention is $10.

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED NOW FOR THE FALL

Boys and girls entering fourth grade and up are invited to become an Altar Server. Servers play an important role in our liturgies, and serving allows you to participate in the Mass. Please consider this fun and very important ministry! No experience is necessary; we train you, and you will get lots of help.

This is a great opportunity for boys and girls to provide a valuable service to the St. Stephen's community by being a part of our Eucharistic celebrations each weekend and at weddings.

Training begins after Labor Day. We can't wait to welcome you! Please contact Fr. Tom at the parish office or at frtom@ststephentinley.com

THE SUNDAY PARISH CHOIR NEEDS YOU!

Share your time and talent by joining the St. Stephen Music Ministry! The St. Stephen Music Ministry is always looking for individuals who have a passion for singing and playing music.

The Sunday Parish Choir will resume rehearsals for the coming season on Wednesday, September 25th, at 7PM, in the Music Room. No previous experience is necessary. Generally the choir will rotate singing at the 10AM and 11:30AM Sunday Masses.

Singers who are not able to commit to weekly service are welcome to join the Festival Choir which will sing at the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses, the Easter Triduum and a few other feast days throughout the year.

The Festival Choir rehearsal will begin at a later date and will be announced soon! Email david@ststephentinley.com with any questions or for more information.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will be holding their next meeting this Thursday, September 5th, at 10:00AM, in Rooms 125-126 in the parish office wing.

Please consider joining us as we knit and crochet prayer shawls for others in need of comfort and prayers in our community.

All you need to do is bring your needles and hooks and share your talent. If you are interested in learning how to knit or crochet we can help you! For more information about the ministry please call Dorothy Kuzelka at 708-614-2588.

THE PILGRIM STATUE OF FATIMA

The Pilgrim Statue of Fatima has been an Ambassador of Peace. This is especially true in our times.

The pilgrim statue promotes Our Lady's intercession through prayer. This pilgrim statue provides an inspiration to both our young and old equally to answer God's call.

The Pilgrim Statue of Fatima will be here at St. Stephen's, in our chapel through Noon this upcoming Saturday, September 7th. The rosary will be prayed every night at 6PM, except for this Monday, Labor Day, September 2nd. Everyone is welcome.

Saint Stephen Parish Picnic
August 25, 2019

PARISH WEDDING COORDINATORS NEEDED

Our Parish Wedding Coordinators Ministry is dedicated to providing the bride and groom assistance and support in organizing and assisting at the wedding rehearsal and ceremony within the Parish. Our wedding coordinators facilitate many of the details and logistics of the wedding liturgy. They are trained in assisting at the liturgies and have a full understanding of liturgical norms that direct planning and preparation.

They are a great assistance to the bride, groom, family members and friends. They are present at the rehearsal, and they are there on the wedding day to ensure that all goes smoothly and reverently. They also assist in the cleanup. They work with the Pastor, deacons and the Director of Liturgy and Music to ensure that wedding celebrations occur with minimal confusion.

We are currently looking for volunteers to assist in this ministry as a Wedding Coordinator here at Saint Stephen's. As a coordinator you would be able to select the wedding that fits your schedule. For more information, or to volunteer, please call or email: Eileen at: 708-415-1485 or Eileenkrippel@gmail.com

ST. STEPHEN'S BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday, September 26th
Parish Life Center, 2:30PM - 7:30PM
Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

If you are in good health, please consider sharing the gift of life by donating blood on Thursday September 26th. Donating takes less than one hour and will improve the lives of up to three people. All donors will receive a Chicago Bears long sleeve t-shirt. To sign up, please contact Tim Sajewski at 708-567-2605 or timsy68@gmail.com.

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

"SING TO THE LORD: GATHERING THE CANTORS"

"Sing To The Lord: Gathering The Cantors" will be an event for all parishioners who are interested in serving the parish as psalmists and/or cantors.

Ideal candidates are people who possess a pleasant singing voice, are comfortable singing in front of people, and are able to learn music quickly. Portions of the 2007 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' document "Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship" will be explored and discussed, and there will be lots and lots of singing! Attendees are asked to prepare a psalm or a song to sing in this very kind and friendly atmosphere.

WHEN: Wednesday September 4th, at 7PM
WHERE: Church

Please contact David Boyle, Director of Music & Liturgy by email at david@ststephentinley.com or by calling the parish office. Of course there's no cost, but we'll need an idea of how many participants we'll have so there are enough printed materials for everyone. Feel free to contact David with any questions!

QUEEN OF HEARTS WEEKLY WINNER

Pat Savage - Card #4
Ace of Clubs - Pot Rolls Over!!!
Next drawing will take place on Wednesday, September 4th.
Did you get your tickets yet?

FOOTBALLMANIA" STARTS THIS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

We are quickly approaching the start of the 2019 NFL Football Season. The start of the football season also marks the beginning of our "Football Mania" Raffle. "Football mania" is an exciting fundraiser based on professional football. Each ticket has an equal chance to win based on the number of points scored by the football teams that are randomly assigned to each ticket. Each ticket has a new chance to win in each of the 17 weeks of the fundraiser. "Football Mania" begins on September 5th. Each ticket has 104 chances to win. Each ticket costs just $20 and is good for all 17 weeks of the regular season.

Each ticket also contains a unique access code that allows you to download digital music and books from up-and-coming artists who have teamed up with CharityMania to help non-profit organizations raise money! This is an additional added bonus.

Tickets for this year's "Football Mania" are now available. Tickets are available this weekend in the narthex of the church or at the parish office. Stop by and get yours today and join in the fun this football season. Your support of this parish fundraiser is appreciated.

PATRIOTIC ROSARY

Please come join us in praying the Patriotic Rosary for our country on Wednesday, September 11th. The Patriotic Rosary will be prayed after the 8:30AM Mass outside of our church (weather permitting). It will also be prayed at a special 6:30PM 9-11 Prayer Service, which we be held starting at 6:30PM. All are invited to come join your voices in this powerful prayer for America.

The Patriotic Rosary dedicates one Hail Mary in the traditional rosary to each state of the United States and asks God's protection of and guidance for our country.

The Patriotic Rosary includes intentions for the three branches of our government and our elected officials before each decade. A quotation from an historic American leader such as George Washington is read after the reciting of each mystery, and a patriotic song ends each decade of the rosary.

Come and join us as we pray for our nation and our elected officials state by state.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Parishioners' names and those of their immediate family members will be read at Mass for two weeks and listed in the bulletin for another two weeks. 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.

After the second two weeks, all names will then be added to the Parish Petition Book, which is presented at each Mass.

To be added to our prayer list, please contact Deacon Pete in the Parish Office.

Parishioners who are hospitalized and in need of Pastoral Care should also contact the Parish Office.

JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST Beginning Saturday, September 14th

St. George Parish, in Tinley Park, will begin the fifth year of a very vibrant and rewarding men's program on September 14th called **That Man is You!**

An invitation is being extended to the men of St. Stephen's to participate in this program along with St. George and other neighboring parishes.

That Man Is You! (TMIY) is designed to address the pressures and temptations that men face in our modern culture, especially those relating to their roles as husbands and fathers.

The title for this year's program is **"The Fight of Faith,"** and will focus on how we, as Catholic men, can be better equipped to engage in the spiritual battles raging in the world today. Brochures with more specific details about our schedule, discussion topics and objectives are available near the church entrances.

TMIY meets weekly in O'Connell Hall at St. George School on Saturday mornings, September through April. Coffee, fresh pastries, bagels, muffins, fruit & other hot breakfast items are available beginning at 6:30AM, along with smiling faces & good conversation. Our weekly video presentation starts at 7:00AM, followed by small group discussions with typically 6 to 8 men at each table. We always adjourn promptly at 8:00AM because we understand that everyone has busy weekend agendas that need our attention. There is no "course fee" for TMIY, but there is an optional program book available for $10. We only ask that those attending make a free will donation towards defraying the cost of the breakfast items provided.

St. George Church is located at 6707 W. 175th Street in Tinley Park, just east of Oak Park Avenue.

Here's a chance to make some new friends! Come by and check it out! All adult men, 18 and older, are invited and encouraged to attend. There is no requirement to be there every week. Just come whenever you can! We look forward to seeing you there. To learn more about this program, please contact Gary Hendzell at (708) 614-1734 or ghendzell@msn.com.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The Society of St Vincent de Paul was formed in Paris, France, in 1833 by six college students who were looking to live out the gospel message of taking care of His "least ones," as Jesus Himself spelled out. Members of the Society of St.Vincent de Paul (or "Vincentians)" are men and women who strive to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to individuals in need.

The purpose of the St. Vincent de Paul Conference here at St. Stephen's Parish is to reach out to those in need in the community and assist them in all possible ways – always with the spirit of love for the poor. They are energized by the awareness that service to our brother or sister in need is in fact an encounter with our Lord Jesus Christ. Members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul are keenly aware that poverty, suffering and loneliness are present in our communities.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul offers tangible assistance to those in need on a person-to-person basis. It is this personalized involvement that makes the work of the Society unique. This aid may take the form of intervention, consultation, or often through direct dollar or in-kind service. An essential precept of the Society's work is to provide help while conscientiously maintaining the confidentiality and dignity of those who are served.

The Saint Stephen Saint Vincent de Paul Society is dependent on the generosity of our parish family and friends for their funding. We are all called to help.

If you know of someone in need of assistance, please refer them to our confidential phone number: 708-342-2400 extension 205. The phone is monitored daily and a response can be expected within 48 hours.

RECENTLY BAPTIZED AT SAINT STEPHEN'S

We would like to welcome to our parish family these children who were recently baptized here at Saint Stephen's.

Maeve Katherine Kain

Julian James Porzio

Bailey Rose Maher

Miles Theodore Podrazik

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

The purpose of the Children's Liturgy of the Word ministry is to proclaim the Liturgy of the Word to children in language that is meaningful to them and to provide a discussion of the scriptures, which is geared to their age and developmental abilities. Children's Liturgy of the Word occurs during the 10AM Mass on most Sundays. Children begin Mass with their families, then they are invited to listen to the scriptures in a separate space, and then rejoin their families for the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Volunteers are needed to read the scripture passage to the children and to briefly discuss it with them. All reading and materials are provided.

CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS.....parents, *grandparents*, aunts, and uncles.....PLEASE HELP US! Are you interested in having a spiritual impact on our next generation of Catholics? Men, this is not just for the ladies. We need spiritual dads desperately!! Please consider volunteering for the Children's Liturgy Program and embark upon an exciting journey of faith with the Children of St. Stephen. No special skills are needed, just a desire to inspire children with the Words of Christ. Please consider volunteering as a Leader or an Assistant. Training is provided!! Please contact Laura at the parish office.

HELPFUL OUTREACH FOR PEOPLE SEEKING EMPLOYMENT (HOPE) MINISTRY

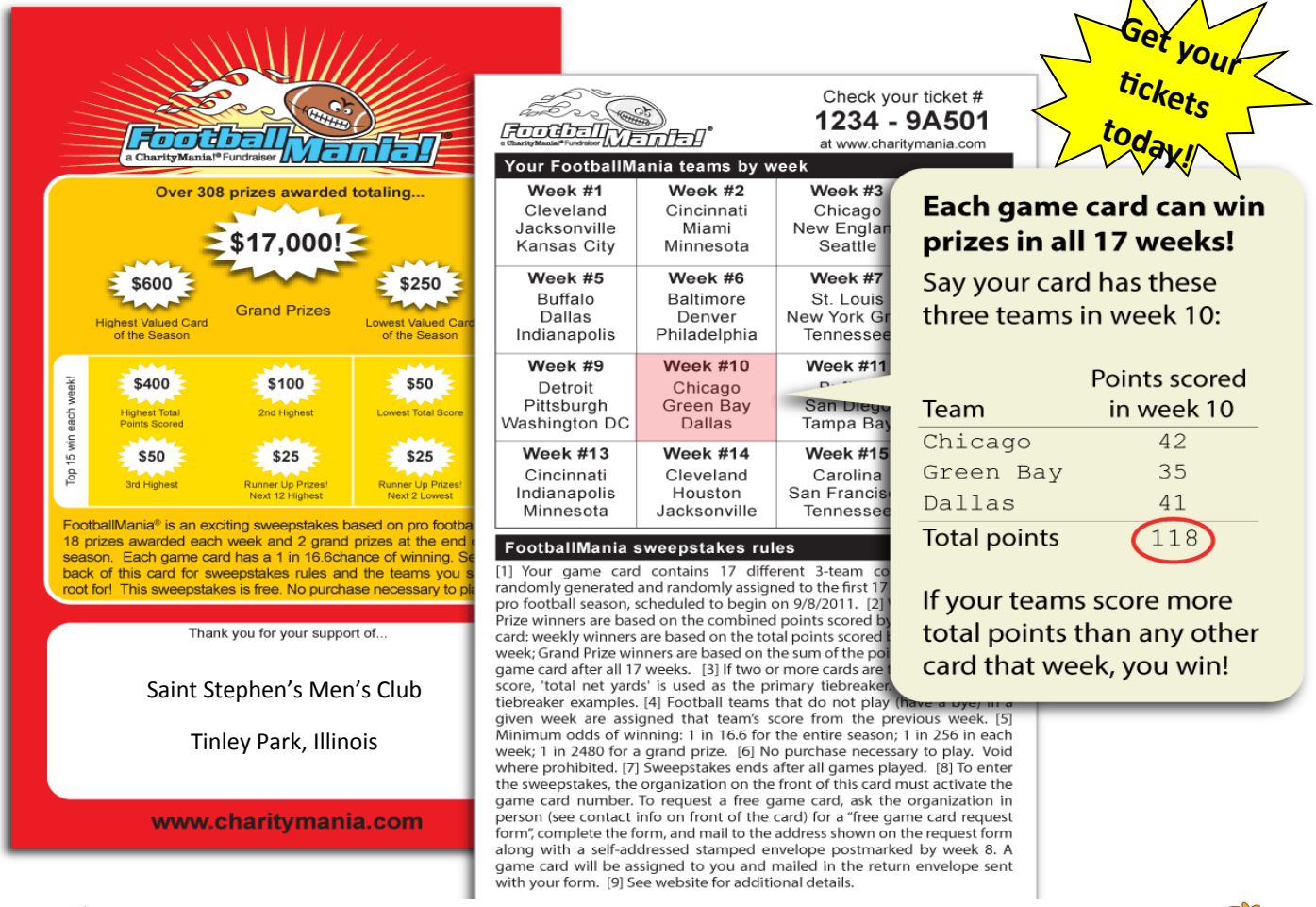
The next meeting of the Helpful Outreach for People Seeking Employment (HOPE) Ministry will take place on Tuesday, September 3rd,, at 7PM, at Saint Elizabeth Seton Church, in Orland Hills. The meeting topic is "Current Trends in the Job Market."

HOPE is open to the public free of charge, and we invite job seekers, employers and HOPE Alumni. For more information, please contact Arnie Skibinski at askibinski@steseton.com

Footballmania Returns!!

Football is in the air!! It's time again for Footballmania. Footballmania, sponsored by the Men's Club, is an exciting sweepstakes fundraiser based on professional football. All sweepstakes game cards have an equal chance to win prize money based on the performance of the random football teams printed on the back. Game cards contain 3 random teams in each of the 17 weeks of the pro football season (you get 3 new teams each week). To play the game, participants simply add up the points scored by their 3 teams. Every week, the 15 highest scoring game cards and the 3 lowest scoring game cards all win prizes. In addition, two grand prizes are awarded at the end of the season. There are 4,960 unique game cards, each of which has a minimum 1 in 16.6 chance to win a prize during the season. Footballmania participants can win $1,000s in cash prizes based on the number of points scored by the football teams printed on the backs of their Sweepstakes Game Cards. Each week CharityMania calculates the winning game cards. Every week, the 15 highest scoring game cards, and the 3 lowest scoring game cards all win prizes…a new chance in each of the 17 weeks of the sweepstakes!

Football Mania tickets are now available. Tickets are still only $20 each and good for the whole NFL regular season. The Men's Club will be selling them in the narthex. They are also available at the parish office during the week. Purchase five or more tickets and receive a free football. No skill is required. Funds raised will benefit the Parish Life Center. Any questions, please contact Paul Michael Yedwofski at paulmichaely@comcast.net.



WE NEED YOUR HELP!!! IF WE SELL ALL 4,960 TICKETS OUR PARISH WOULD RECEIVE A DONATION OF OVER $65,000. IF EVERY REGISTERED FAMILY BOUGHT JUST ONE TICKET, WE WOULD BE VERY CLOSE TO SELLING OUT! HELP US SCORE THE $65,000 TOUCHDOWN! GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

STEWARDSHIP

September 1, 2019
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you."

We have a difficult time with the concept of giving without expecting something in return. Even when we give to charity we often want something in return – a raffle ticket, a dinner, a chance to play golf or our name in print. Yet, as Christian stewards, we need to remember that the true reward for our giving awaits us in heaven.

PARISH SUPPORT

Sharing Our Treasure

Thank you for your continued Stewardship in support of St. Stephen's.

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

Collection	08-25-2019
Regular Sunday	$15,980.00
Sharing	$490.00
Assumption	$63.00
Mission Appeal	$80.00
Total	**$16,613.00**

SUMMER VACATIONS

We sincerely thank our parishioners who mail or deliver their weekly envelopes to the parish office for the weekends that they are out of town or on vacation.

It is very helpful to be able to rely on your continued support even when you cannot personally attend Mass here. Thank You!!!!!

Creation Care Corner

"All of us operate as instruments of God for the Care of Creation."
– Pope Francis

Celebrate the Season of Creation

From Sept. 1 to Oct. 4 each year, the Christian community celebrates the Season of Creation by praying and acting together to protect our common home. We Catholics are uniting with others in the Christian family to protect every creature in God's beautifully complex web of creation. This is a time to celebrate the abundance of life and to refocus our efforts to protect creation in all its glory.

Caring for Creation protects the inheritance the Creator has given us, … an inheritance essential to our well-being. Pope Benedict XIV told us protecting this inheritance is a way of fulfilling our role as stewards of Creation. Pope Francis urges us to recognize our connectedness with the natural world saying, "Nature cannot be regarded as something separate from ourselves or as a mere setting in which we live. We are part of nature, included in it and thus in constant interaction with it." (LS 139)

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship is a way of life, a way of thanking God for all His blessings by returning a portion of the time, talent and treasure allotted to us. Stewardship is based on the spiritual principles of the Old Testament and the teachings of Jesus; and where it has been implemented, both givers' and receivers' lives have been changed. Stewardship engenders a spirituality that deepens our relationship with Jesus. Stewardship involves intentional, planned and proportionate giving of our time, talent and treasure. "Give and it shall be given to you. Good measure pressed down, shaken together, running over, will they pour into the fold of your garment. For the measure you measure with will be measured back to you." (Luke 6:38) "Above all, let your love for one another be constant, for love covers a multitude of sins. Be mutually hospitable without complaining. As generous distributors of God's manifold grace, put your gifts at the service of one another, each in the measure you have received." (1 Peter 4: 8-10)

Greeters Schedule
September 7th - September 8th

5PM - Joan Beck, Mary Berger, Jean Coughlin
8:30AM - Tom Mitus, Jim O'Donnell
10AM - Pauline Cotrano, Linda Giroux, Chris Losey
11:30AM - Joan Beck, Julie Gilligan, Seana Gilligan

Meetings/Events

Sunday, September 1st
Men's Club Football Mania
Narthex...Queen of Hearts Ticket Sales
9:30 AM - 1:00 PM Queen of Hearts Ticket Sales Parish Office
3:00 PM Baptism

Monday, September 2nd – LABOR DAY Mass 9 am
Parish & RE Offices Closed

Tuesday, September 3rd
8:30 AM - 8:00 PM Queen of Hearts Ticket Parish Office
6:00 PM Our Lady of Fatima Statue - Rosary - Chapel

Wednesday, September 4th
8:30 AM - 7:00 PM Queen of Hearts Ticket Sales Parish Office
4:00 PM Catechist Meeting - PLC & Entire RE Wing
6:00 PM Our Lady of Fatima Statue - Rosary - Chapel
7:00 PM Sing to the Lord: Gathering the Cantors/ Church
8:00 PM AA Pol #161

Thursday, September 5th
8:30 AM - 6:30 PM Adoration of Blessed Sac Daily Chapel with Rosary @ 8:30am
8:30 AM - 8:00 PM Queen of Hearts Ticket Sales Parish Office
10:00 AM Shawl Ministry #125/126
6:00 PM Our Lady of Fatima Statue - Rosary - Chapel
6:30 PM Benediction Daily Chapel followed by Divine Mercy Prayers

Friday, September 6th
8:30 AM - 3:30 PM Adoration of Blessed Sac Daily Chapel
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM Queen of Hearts Ticket Sales Parish Office
6:00 PM Our Lady of Fatima Statue - Rosary - Chapel
6:30 PM 1st Fri Mass (Polish) Church
7:00 PM Al-Anon Polish #153
8:00 PM AA Pol #161

Saturday, September 7th
Narthex...Queen of Hearts Ticket Sales
8:00 AM - AA #158/159
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM Queen of Hearts Ticket Sales Parish Office
7:00 PM 1st Sat Mass (Polish) Church

Sunday, September 8th
Narthex...Queen of Hearts Ticket Sales
9:30 AM - 1:00 PM Queen of Hearts Ticket Sales Parish Office
3:00 PM Baptism6:00 PM Our Lady of Fatima Statue - Rosary - Chapel

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

Welcome! We are happy you are interested in learning about the Catholic faith. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process by which men and women become members of the Catholic Church. It takes place within the context of the church community, and after a suitable period of formation, culminates in the reception of the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. If you are interested in learning more about or becoming part of The Catholic Faith or if you are a Catholic who needs to complete their Sacraments of Initiation, this is the place for you!

Who is RCIA for?

The RCIA is for adults who are interested in becoming fully initiated into the Catholic Church. This would include anyone who is not baptized, or a person who was baptized into another faith denomination and would like to become Catholic. It is also for baptized Catholics who have not received the Eucharist (First Communion) and Confirmation.

What is RCIA?

The Rite of the Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program is one that models the process of conversion and is marked by different stages and rites (ceremonies).

The process is for non-baptized adults (catechumens) and baptized Christians (candidates) to be fully initiated into the Catholic Church. RCIA is first and foremost an opportunity for people to develop or deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ. During this process each participant will learn about the doctrine of the Catholic faith, and have opportunities to get questions answered. If they should desire, a person may enter into full communion with the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil.

If you are ready to begin the process of learning more about becoming Catholic, please contact our parish office. You will be contacted by a staff member who will meet with you to determine the next steps for you. Since everyone's situation is different, the individual circumstances and sacramental needs of each person will be assessed. This is what determines the process to be followed and the time frame involved.

For more information about our RCIA Program, please contact the parish office. Classes begin after Labor Day.

Mass Intentions

Sunday, September 1st

7:00 am	Mary Reynolds	Family
	Kathleen McKeon	Bob McKeon
8:30 am	Luke & Mary Marren	Family
	Gil Miguel, Sr.	Heidi Miguel
	Mary Makowski	John & Sue Bogumil
10:00 am	Ali Zanzig	Beverly Lencioni
	Thomas Rogan	Family
	Matthew & Lucas Cummings	Colleen Cummings
11:30 am	John Farrington	Whelan-Kapanowski
	Ligaya P. Deak	Family & Friends
	Parishioners of Saint Stephen	
1:00 pm	Dominik Gosiewski	Henry Czajewski
	Halina Tylka	
6:15 pm	Don Schmidt	Orawiec Family
	Kathleen Schneider	Richter Family

Monday, September 2nd

9:00 am	David Newquist	Barbara Black
	H. R. Johnson	Family

Tuesday, September 3rd

8:00 am	David Grisko	Linda Flisk
	David Newquist	Elaine Lindenmeyer
	James Hart	Family

Wednesday, September 4th

8:00 am	Lucille Costello	Mary Kelly
	David Newquist	Dcn. Pete & Jan VanMerkesten
	Dan Groves	Mc Lean Family
	Bernard Dowling	Mangan Family

Thursday, September 5th

8:00 am	Ed Walsh	Family
	Jackie Thurston	Dcn. Pete & Jan VanMerkesten
	Purgatorial Society	

Friday, September 6th

8:00 am	Chet Vogrig	Cachey Family
	David Newquist	Diane Przybylski
	Ed Czochara	Family

Saturday, September 7th

8:00 am	Donald Cable	Agnes Mackey
	Milda Rakauskas	Dcn. Pete & Jan VanMerkesten
5:00 pm	Blessings for Joe & Linda Stalcup	Family
	Steve & Ann Frejlich	Family
	John & Jeanette Dygdon	Dygdon Family
	Blessings for Stacie Pavalon-Lentz	Family
	Val Gawrych	Clausen Family
	John E. Kaucky	Adult Altar Servers
	Andrea Adams	Family

Sunday, September 8th

7:00 am	Sisters of Holy Family of Nazareth	Karen Opyd
8:30 am	Rudy & Anne Kozik	Dayle O'Reilly
	Ben Armijo	Polignone Family
	Luke & Mary Marren	Family
10:00 am	Jean Dobersztyn	Emily Johnson
	Gibbons & McLean Families	McLean Family
	Kay Mueller	Noreen Galvin
	Parishioners of Saint Stephen	
11:30 am	Thomas Henaghan, Jr.	Henaghan, Jr. Family
	Eileen Tess	Family
	Joyce Seidel	Robert Likas
1:00 pm	Casimir Wozniak	Family
6:15 pm	John Crawford	Dcn. Pete & Jan VanMerkesten
	Agnes McWalter	Bridget Boyle

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

Maria Ariza	Ann Lewitke
Kristen Baldyga	Ruth Martinez
Arlene Beavan	Santo Messina
Kristen Caldwell	James Nowlan
Peggy Castro	Tim O'Connell
Karen Cole	Stacie Pavalon Lentz
Matt Creen	Laura Reid
Daniel Clausen	Joe and Joan Ricciuti
Ken Dellorto	Randy Rucka
Bridget Dougal	Joe & Terri Schulte
Bill Galvin	Barbara Scherer
Mary Garbaciak	Margaret Schmidt
Laurie Genardo	Natalie Sims
Sharon Grill	John Soverino
Sally Hartford	Rachel Swallow
Larry Hersh	Louis Tassone
Rich Jaczak	Rosemary Valentas
Steve Kizaric	Michael Wilson
Rex Knapp	Helen Zimmerman

As a Parish Family we pray for those who have been called from this life to eternal life in Christ.

Richard "Ricky" Esposito, James Savarino

We pray for those engaged to be married

Ken Hopman & Lindsay Rusch - III

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 choose. Donating through GiveCentral is a way to simplify your giving and is environmentally friendly. Signing up takes ONLY 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's accepts electronic donations through Byline Bank. To begin this method of donating, you will need to complete and sign the authorization form and attach 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 are 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: **frtom@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.

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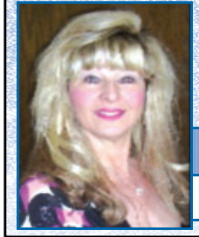
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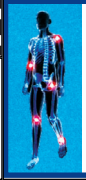

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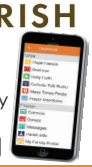

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