

St. Stephen Deacon & Martyr Catholic Church

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



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JANUARY
26 2020

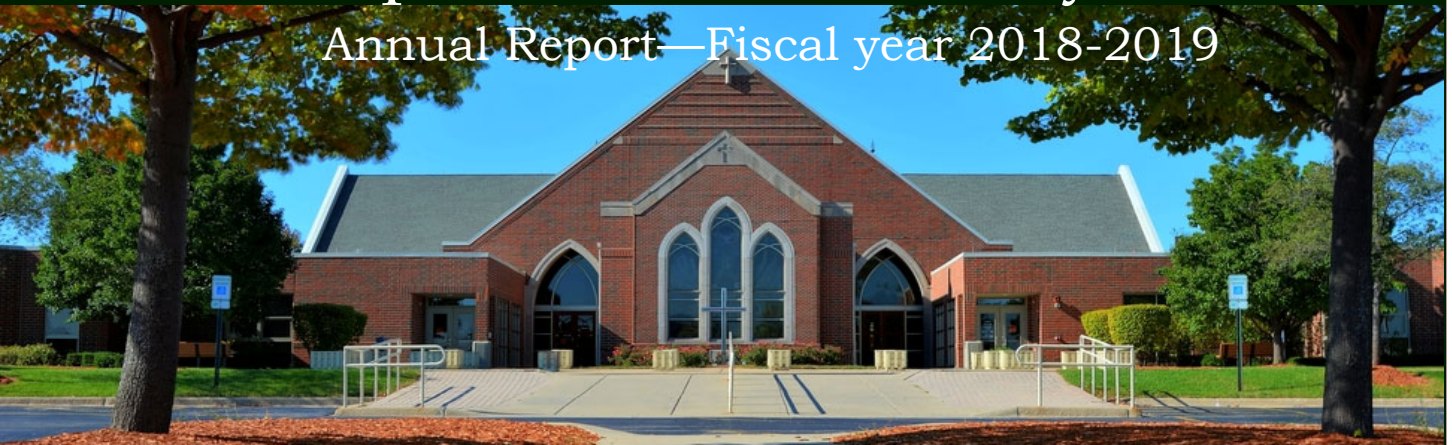
*They left their nets and
followed him.*

MATTHEW 4:20

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

St. Stephen Deacon & Martyr Parish

Annual Report—Fiscal year 2018-2019



Dear Parishioners,

It has been a little over a year now since I became your pastor and I want to thank you for welcoming me into your faith family. Moving from a parish of 400 families to a parish of over 4,000 families can be overwhelming, but you have been very helpful to me during this time of transition.

There are always growing pains and a sense of uneasiness with what is “different.” In reflecting on the past year our parish went through several changes. We were faced with a number of longtime parish employees who elected to retire or move on in different career directions. I want to ask you to join me to pray for them as they move on to this new chapter in their lives. Replacing these longtime staff members has been a slow and ongoing challenge, but I believe we are moving in the right direction and I hope to have a full “team” in place soon to meet the needs of our parishioners going forward.

This past year has been a learning experience for both you and me. I feel we both want the same good things for our parish and our parishioners. I want to apologize for anything that might have caused you any hurt feelings or misgivings with our parish or me. That was never my intention. Let me assure you that as we move forward we will do a better job of communicating the reasons behind any changes. But more importantly I am always open to dialog and discussion, as this is “our” parish and we need to work together as a team and the best way to begin that is to foster open discussion between all of you and me.

As pastor, I am responsible for the catechesis of the parishioners of all ages. And this is a responsibility that I take very seriously. After a year of observing what we were offering in terms of catechesis at all levels, I felt that we needed to tweak some of our offerings to ensure that we were offering a quality, faith filled, catechetical experience. The goal of any catechetical program should bring everyone closer to God and make “missionary disciples” to the world.

In an effort to enhance what we were offering and give more opportunities for our parishioners to come to know our Lord better and learn more about our faith and the Church to which we belong, we have made some changes in our catechetical and Religious Education Programs. These changes were made in a sincere effort to meet this objective, but it seems that in all instances the narrative behind them may not have always been clearly and accurately shared. Looking back with 20/20 hindsight, I feel I should have presented the changes and why they were being made personally so that this vision was communicated clearly. Much like the childhood game of telephone with the strings and the cans, by the time the message got to the people, it was an unclear version of the vision we tried to convey. For this I apologize and will work to do better in the future.

In the twenty years of our existence as a parish, the world in which we live in has undergone many changes, some that we can easily accept and others that we could have never imagined. But in order to live in this new reality we have to make changes and adjustments that reflect the current reality. The reality of full churches and full schools, and everyone dutifully practicing their faith are, unfortunately, no longer a reality. We are faced with a time and culture where the largest religious group is the “none,” and I don’t mean religious women nuns.

We live in a time where organized religion is going through a period of radical change. And in order to be successful as a Church, we need to be open to doing some things differently. And those new approaches will, in many cases, seem strange, foreign or very uncomfortable. People often mention that, “It is not like it was in the past!” And that is a true statement. So where does that leave us? Each of us is called to continually confirm our faith in Jesus Christ. We need to think outside the box to come up with new ways of being the Body of Christ, the Church, to our community, while honoring the decisions and practices from those made before us. And we all need to take our part in the process.

There are many ways to accomplish this. First, we must develop a new parish "spirit," in which we all can come together as a single community of believers. We need to support and empower each other, as we all work for the common good. We need to be inviting and welcoming to all. We need to support and become involved in all of our parish ministries, groups and activities. We need to be **"Saint Stephen Proud!"** There is something for everyone to become involved in and I welcome your ideas, your wisdom, your insights and mostly importantly your assistance and participation.

In the near future I am going to email out an electronic survey that I would like you to complete. This survey will be asking you for your input on what ministries would be of interest to your family and ones that you would feel a sense of commitment to. In addition, we will be asking about what kind of social events here at the parish you would be willing to attend or help organize. In completing this survey, I want your most honest and open input on what we can do to build a stronger community here at St. Stephen. We are the captains of the destiny of our parish and we need the input from each of you to make it a success.

My goal is to also try and begin to better utilize the Parish Life Center (PLC) that was recently built and opened. It is a wonderful space to hold parish events, sporting events, workshops, and a wide host of activities. However, we don't currently have the people in place to organize and run these events. I am open to almost any event that would help us build a stronger community here at St. Stephen. One thing I have learned is that not all events are attractive to all people, in all age groups. So I am asking you, the parishioners of St. Stephen to bring forth your ideas for events that would be successful. We have tried a few, such as a parish picnic, a White Sox outing, an Oktoberfest, but I feel we are still missing out on opportunities to build community. I would like to throw it back to you. What would you like to see take place at St. Stephen? What can you commit to being part of and bringing your friends to? What are you willing to help us with? Would you be more interested in family events or adult events? There are many opportunities for everyone to become involved here at our parish, but yet we need your input on how to do that.

We are totally dependent on a vast volunteer force to keep the parish functioning. We thank all of you who have been so generous with your time and talent; we could not be a parish without your help. So many of us have such busy lives, we always assume that someone else will help us build the future at St. Stephen or think, "I will join in when life slows down." Unfortunately, by the time our lives slow down, our priorities are different and we have lost our connection to the parish. I ask each of you to consider at least one way you can become a stronger member of our faith community in the coming year. If more parishioners volunteered, no one would have to give us more than a few hours of time each year.

In terms of finances for our parish, we have spent the past year identifying, upgrading and maintaining our facilities. We have also looked closely at the budget and expenses to insure that we are being good stewards with the treasure you share with our parish. I ask you to read the letter from the Finance Council concerning some specifics that we have been working on this past year.

As we look to the future, I am grateful and hopeful that we can continue to work together. The strengths of our parish energize our mission of "working together for the glory of God." We do this in many ways. Much has been done and much still awaits us to be done in the present and future.

Of course, there are concerns as we look to the future. We must continually adapt to the needs of our younger families, children and youth. We need to make sure that our older parishioners, especially those who live alone, are ministered to, as well. We need to make our celebration of the Sunday Eucharist the highlight of our week. We reach out in compassion and joy to those who seek material assistance and we take seriously our responsibility to be good stewards of all God's many gifts.

I want to invite each of you to embark on this new beginning for us all. This year we are doing something different in reporting our financial results. We are sending them in a combination parish update and financial report to all of our registered families and individuals. We are hopeful that this effort will allow us to share this information with a larger group of people. I feel that it is equally important to share our financial information with you and also give you a better understanding of where we are as a parish today. I also want to share with you some of what awaits us as we look to the future. We have also included with this parish information your annual contribution report for the past year. The sharing of your time, talent and treasure, reflects your support of our parish and the ministries and programs we offer.

I want to thank you for all that you have done for our parish and me personally this past year. I look forward working with you in new and exciting ways as we begin to write the next chapter in the life of Saint Stephen's Parish



St. Stephen Proud!!!

Working together.....



Fundraisers

(net income)

Parish Picnic:	\$1,745
St. Joseph Dinner:	\$4,207
Octoberfest:	\$3,085
Queen of Hearts:	\$24,000

Sharing

St. Emeric:	\$14,065
St. Vincent De Paul	
Income:	\$54,922
Assistance:	-51,338

TTWCI

Collected:	\$113,464
PLC Expenses:	\$610,134
(Final Payout to Contractor,	



Celebrating together.....



Fellow Parishioners,

During this past fiscal year, the wide range of services and activities listed on the report were dependent on a staff of six full-time, two part-time benefits eligible, and approximately 15 part-time people along with a shared youth minister with St. Elizabeth Seton and so many people who gave of their time, talent, and financial support to our parish. We thank everyone whose support allowed us to do this. You can be proud of what you have helped to accomplish.

In the 2018-19 fiscal year, there were many great successes:

- ◇ completed the Parish Life Center (PLC)
- ◇ completed the planting and landscaping of the bio-swale behind the PLC
- ◇ added dozens of trees in the parking lot and on the parish premises
- ◇ created social opportunities like the White Sox Outing
- ◇ hosted the Dinner for St. Joseph's Day
- ◇ started the Queen of Hearts raffle
- ◇ began plans to host Super Bingo for parishioners to gather and bond

We also had a few personnel changes including the hiring of maintenance people to address short, medium and long term plans for our facilities; a new music director and we are in the process of hiring for a Director of Formation. With the new staff members in place, our focus for next year is to implement programs and events that will fully utilize the PLC and help us continue to grow the community of St. Stephen.

We are grateful for the generosity of our parishioners in the past year that has enabled us to meet our operating expenses, to see the parish life center finished and opened for usage, and to continue to pay down our mortgage. Since 2003, we have paid down our initial mortgage - the cost of our current facilities, our land, and parish startup costs – from \$8.3 million to approximately \$1.6 million while funding parish services and meeting the maintenance needs of our facilities.

In addition to providing support and review of financial statements, a key role of the finance committee is to plan for long-term maintenance and facility needs and long-term ministry needs. In addition, our goal is to provide our Pastor with our best advice and direction on meeting the long term financial goals of the parish. In addressing parish needs, our committee has three key financial priorities:

- ◇ meeting expenses for our current and future ministries
- ◇ paying down our two mortgages—remaining balances
 - original mortgage \$1.5 Million
 - PLC mortgage \$582,000
- ◇ providing for the completion and the upkeep costs of the parish life center

We have adjusted our budgeted collections downward, slightly to meet the financial trend of the parish and the diocese overall. However, as you each experience in your own homes, our St. Stephen home experiences the same increases in utilities and maintenance. In order for us to meet that budget and have adequate funds for the payment of both mortgages, we estimate that we will need a 5% increase in revenue for this current fiscal year. This increase can come from offertory collections, fundraising, or outright donations. Currently the mortgage payments on the PLC and the original church loan exceed \$60,000 per month. We appeal to your ongoing generosity to support our parish work. We ask anyone who is able to make a small increase in your donations.

The offertory collection was especially important since we are meeting our operating expenses and mortgage payments as well as supporting most archdiocesan causes through one collection. In 2018-2019, we changed our collection process and re-introduced a second collection for Archdiocese mandated collections and a building and maintenance fund. Recall that the archdiocese financed our facilities for the church and support wings based on a commitment to stewardship. Our original mortgage payments repay that confidence.

Our current status regarding the PLC is both encouraging and worrisome at the same time. When we started planning for the PLC we began a campaign pledge drive whereby the Archdiocese mandated that we have (at least) 67% of cash for the project in hand and 100% of the total commitment in pledges. We met those numbers. In fact, our original estimate of the second mortgage was close to \$1million; in reality, we borrowed less than \$675K from the Archdiocese to complete the project. The remainder of the funding was from the generous donations of our parishioners.

This commitment was the key to the success of our mortgage payments as well as the construction of the Parish Life Center. It is a testament to the commitment of our parishioners and further evidence of the type of parish that we want to maintain. Now that the dust has settled, our current mortgage on the PLC as of July 1, 2019, was \$582,000 with a monthly payment that averages \$18,000. The good news is that if every person who pledged to the To Teach Who Christ Is Campaign met their commitment and paid their pledges we would be able to pay off most if not all of that mortgage. The worrisome news is that payment of these pledges have been inconsistent since the beginning of the project and some of the pledges were never paid or completed. Based on the current rate of collection we will not collect most of those funds by the end of the campaign in 2020. Currently we are only collecting between \$5-7000 per month in pledge payments and must cover the balance (over \$10,000) each month from Sunday collections. If you have fallen behind on your pledge and have the ability to make those payments once again or complete your pledge, we ask that you do so.

We have a few capital projects that need action in the next year or two and are in the process of developing a long-term capital replacement plan for all equipment (mechanical and office). The most pressing issues are the parking lot and the church roof. The parking lot needs to be completely reconstructed, assuring that proper base material and drainage is installed. In addition, the shingles on the church roof are failing and although we have filed a claim with the manufacturer, we will have to bear the cost of the labor to have them replaced. You may recall that the Queen of Hearts net proceeds which were \$24,000 for the last fiscal year are earmarked for capital improvements like the parking lot and the roof. As we learn more about the costs of these projects and the projected timeline, we will share those numbers with you. We will most likely proceed with the church roof repairs first, next spring to avoid any damage inside the church. The parking lot project, which is anticipated to be close to \$1,000,000 may have to be put off until we can secure funding.

We have committed that 100% of proceeds from any fundraiser (included Queen of Hearts and Bingo) will be earmarked for capital improvements and to help pay down the two mortgages on time or ahead of schedule.

We ask that you determine your regular donation with our parish budgetary needs in mind. We control the costs and of the parish as best we can with the money collected each week. However, with the parish facilities aging, maintenance costs, utilities, and expenses rising, we need your continued financial support. St. Stephen parish has provided each of us and our families with blessings and ministries throughout the years. Please help us to continue to minister to you, your families and to the St. Stephen community in the future through your generous donations, contributions, and stewardship. I also invite you to consider the option of donating through the use of electronic debit or credit card, which makes regular support more convenient. Information on this is available in the narthex today and at the parish office.

St. Stephen Finance Council,

Ray Catania

Dave Darling

Brian Giovanni

Jim Knawa

Connie Lambke

Dave Torelli

Matt Vieck



As a faith community, we are extremely grateful for all of your gifts. Your contributions make it much easier for us to have the

financial support necessary to support our mission. Please take a moment to consider making an online donation. Simply go to www.givecentral.org and click "Sign Up" to begin. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

St. Stephen Proud!!!

Annual Report—Fiscal Year 2018-2019

REVENUE

Sunday & Holy Day Collections	\$ 1,393,959.00
Christmas Collection	97,911.00
Easter Collection	74,955.00
Religious Education Tuition & Fees	230,667.00
Fundraising (Excluding Queen of Hearts)	9,737.00
Stole Fees/Stipends/Misc. Income	75,124.00
Arch. Required Collections	6,690.00
Interest Income on Parish Savings:	3,266.00
TOTAL REVENUE:	\$1,892,309.00

Funerals	23%
Baptisms	7%
Weddings	7%
Mass Stipends	12%
Candles:	32%
Misc. Ministries	19%

Holy Land Collection

EXPENSES

Salaries & Benefits	704,443.00
Archdiocese Assessments & Insurance	211,366.00
Utilities & Household Expenses	116,504.00
Maintenance Expenses	82,135.00
Administrative Expenses	63,461.00
Altar & Liturgical Supplies	21,742.00
Books & Supplies	46,649.00
Miscellaneous Program Expenses	50,671.00
Parish Subsidy to Cardinal Bernadine School	78,509.00
Payment of Arch Required Collections	32,873.00
Real Estate Taxes—Farm Property	17,303.00
Interest Expense	46,991.00
TOTAL EXPENSE:	\$1,472,647.00

Arch Required Assessment
Priest Retirement Fund
Prop./Casualty Insurance

Office Supplies/Printing
Postage
Professional Service Fees
Bank/Credit Card Fees

Payment of Arch Required
Collections that were taken
from Sunday Collections
Latin America \$3,002
Seminaries \$5,382
Peters Pence \$2,250
Prop. Of Faith \$3,934
Cath Campaign for
Human Dev. \$4,538
Religious Retire \$7,077
Holy Land \$6,690

FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR LOAN PAYMENTS:	\$419,662.00
Loan Payments (original church mortgage principle only)	-413,820.00

FUNDS REMAINING	\$5,842.00
(FOR EXTRAORDINARY REPAIRS):	

EXTRAORDINARY INCOME

Estates, Bequests & Memorials	\$ 9,046.00
Annual Catholic Appeal Rebate	\$4,125.00
To Teach Who Christ Is	\$113,464.00
Capital Collections (including Queen of Hearts & PLC)	\$90,534.00
TOTAL EXTRAORDINARY INCOME	\$217,169.00

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENSES	\$613,843.00
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Capital Expenses (PLC & Entrance Doors)
(Remaining payment due to contractor, expenses to purchase additional fixtures, and interest)

COLLECTED/DONATED TO SHARING PARISH	\$14,065.50
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FATHER TOM'S TIDBITS

Dear Friends,

You may be a bit confused with the layout of today's bulletin. I have included in today's bulletin a copy of the Annual Report that was mailed to the homes of all of our registered parishioners this week. By now you should have received it. For those who may not have received it or if you are not a registered parishioner, a copy has been included in today's bulletin for you to review. This weekend members of our parish Finance Council will be making a presentation at all of our weekend Masses, based on the information included in the Annual Report.

The purpose of these presentations is to share with you financial information about our parish with you. As with any large operation, such as our parish, it takes the generosity and involvement of many people to assist us in providing the many ministries, programs and activities offered here at Saint Stephen's. And all of us should be proud of what is happening here at Saint Stephen's. We have a great parish, we should be "St. Stephen's Proud!"

As part of their presentation, the Finance Council will also be making a presentation about the future of our parish as well. Looking forward, there are several pressing needs and concerns that will need to be addressed on a parish-wide level. By coming together as a parish family, we can make great things happen!!!!

I want to thank the members of the Finance Council, Ray Catania, David Darling, Brian Giovanni, Jim Knawa, Connie Lambke, David Torelli and Matt Vieck, and our Business Manager, Kim Osowiec, for all their hard work and time shared in offering me financial advice.

Welcome to Catholic Schools Week!! We can be very proud of the wonderful Catholic school our parish co-sponsors. Our school, Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, continually provides a quality education for the young people of our community. It is truly amazing to see the many wonderful things that go on in our school on a daily basis. In the field of education, many changes in curriculum and programs have taken place. Our children are learning at a faster and more advanced pace than students of a generation ago. There is so much more to cover and so many new and exciting areas for learning that are developing almost daily. During Catholic Schools Week, we take this opportunity to showcase all that Catholic schools are doing across the country. Unfortunately, in the current situation in the media, the only attention Catholic schools seem to receive is when they are being forced to close and that is so unfair. There are so many wonderful things going on in our schools. Catholic schools provide high expectations and daily experiences of faith for students and families. I would venture to guess that there are people here in our community who have no idea that we even have a school, let alone about what is actually going on there. So during this Catholic Schools Week, I ask that you please help us spread the news about our school and the wonderful academic programs we offer. Tell your neighbors, tell your co-workers, tell people you meet in the streets and in the stores, tell everyone about Cardinal Joseph Bernardin School! There is no substitute for a quality Catholic education.

The school is extending a special invitation to all of our parishioners to join them, today, Sunday, for a special "Open House" from 1PM until 3PM. I would encourage everyone to stop by and see the many wonderful and exciting things that are going on in our school. If you haven't been in an elementary school in some years, I think you will be pleasantly surprised at how "school" has changed over the years.

Don't forget to join us this afternoon/Sunday for our Bingo!

Have a Great Week!

BINGO - BINGO - BINGO



Our next bingo will take place **TODAY/Sunday, January 26th**, in our Parish Life Center. Doors will open at 12:30PM and the games will begin at 1:30PM.

Cost of admission is \$20 per person and includes your cards for the regular games and the coverall. Pull tabs and refreshments are available as well.

We hope you will join us for a fun-filled afternoon of bingo. All proceeds from the bingos will be used to help pay off the mortgage on the parish life center.

ST. STEPHEN YOUNG@HEART

Seniors Young @ Heart... welcome to 2020!! Our first meeting will be, tomorrow Monday January 27th at 10AM in the Parish Center providing we do not have inclement weather. Should we have inclement weather you can contact the parish office or someone from the senior group will call with information

We will have Bingo at this meeting. Refreshments will also be served.

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



QUEEN OF HEARTS WEEKLY WINNER - Lewitke Family - #51 - Joker - Pot Rolls Over
Next drawing will take place this Wednesday, January 29th.

Did you get your tickets yet?





**Cardinal Joseph Bernardin Catholic School
OPEN HOUSE FOR NEW FAMILIES
AND NEW STUDENTS**

**3- and 4-year old Pre-K through 8th Grade
Sunday, January 26, 2020 - 1:00pm -- 3:00pm
9250 West 167th Street, Orland Hills, IL 60487**

BINGO VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of parishioners who would be willing to help us by volunteering to work at our bingos. There are a variety of volunteer options available.

Bingos will be held on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. If you can help us, please call Laura at the parish office.



**ARE YOU A REGISTERED
PARISHIONER?**



Whether you're just visiting us for a brief time, looking for a new parish home, returning to the practice of the Catholic faith, or are interested in finding out more about the Catholic Church, we hope that you will find a home here at St. Stephen's Church.

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?

Those who worship at St. Stephen's are encouraged to become part of our parish family by registering as members of the parish. Your registration affects our parish in many ways. Census numbers determine how many priests are assigned to a church, what benefits and obligations the parish has to the Archdiocese, and how Masses, confessions, and devotions are planned and scheduled. Registration is also necessary for certain matters, like scheduling Sacraments, obtaining sponsor certificates, getting donation statements for taxes, and the receiving of parish information. Registering at St. Stephen is a statement of faith in the Lord and confidence in the life and ministry of our parish.

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.

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. Each year the three Chicagoland locations of The Women's Center handles 5,000 appointments with expectant mothers.

We ask that you please take a Baby Bottle home with you this weekend, fill it with your spare change, and return by, Sunday, February 9th.

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



BLESSING OF THROATS

In honor of the feast day of Saint Blase, Bishop and Martyr, we will be offering the traditional blessing of throats after all our Masses next weekend.



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

STEWARDSHIP

January 26, 2020 - 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

*"He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed Him."
(Matthew 4:22)*

Just as Jesus called the first apostles, He calls each of us to follow Him, too. Not everyone is called to leave their business or family behind, but we are expected to put God first in everything. Everything from our time in daily prayer, our talent in participating in one of our parish ministries, and our treasure to support the financial needs of our parish mission.



<u>Collection</u>	<u>01/19/2020</u>
Regular Sunday	\$15,036.00
Ash Wednesday	\$5.00
Christmas	\$250.00
Angel Fund	\$20.00
Sharing	\$53.00
Latin America	\$25.00
Total	\$15,389.00
Christmas Collection to date	\$80,415.75

Thank You



Creation Care Corner

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



*"The world as God's Creation...
is not something indifferent,
raw material to be utilized
simply as we see fit."
— Pope Benedict XVI*

THIS WEEK'S STEWARDSHIP RECOMMENDATION:

Auto Maintenance

Burning fuel for our vehicles pollutes the air and contributes to global warming. Reduce waste and save money by properly maintaining your car. According to the EPA, keeping your tires properly inflated, your car properly tuned and using the proper grade of motor oil can improve your car's fuel economy by 8 percent or more. Consolidating trips will further reduce fuel expense and emissions.



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?

You can give greener by using our Online Giving Program. Simply contact our parish office and we can set you up to have direct withdrawals from your checking or savings accounts made to the parish. 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. There is no charge to you or to the parish for this service.

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.

Greeters Schedule February 1st - 2nd

5PM - Mary Tafoya, Joan Beck,
Mary Berger
8:30AM - Jerry & Pat Lewitke, Mary Berger
10AM - Mark Losey, Chris Losey, Linda Giroux
11:30AM - Judy Kluchins, Charlene Mueller, Lynn Packert



Meetings/Events

Sunday, January 26th

Narthex...Queen of Hearts Ticket Sales
10:00 AM - Children's Liturgy of the Word
10:00 AM - Growing with God Preschool Program
1:30 PM - Bingo - Parish Life Center
3:00 PM - Baptism - Church

Monday, January 27th

10:00 AM - Seniors Young at Heart
General Member Meeting - PLC
Religious Education Classes 4-5:30pm & 6-7:30pm
8:30 AM - 8:00 PM Queen of Hearts Sales Parish Office

Tuesday, January 28th

Religious Education Classes 4-5:30 pm & 6-7:30 pm
8:30 AM - 8:00 PM Queen of Hearts Sales Parish Office
5:30 PM - CJB Basketball Practice - PLC
7:00 PM - Rosary Daily Chapel (Polish)

Wednesday, January 29th

Religious Education Classes 4-5:30 pm & 6-7:30 pm
8:30 AM - 7:00 PM Queen of Hearts Sales Parish Office
4:00 PM - CJB Basketball Practice - PLC
7:00 PM - Adult Choir Rehearsal - Church
8:00 PM- AA Pol #161

Thursday, January 30th

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 Sales Parish Office
5:00 PM - Children's Choir Rehearsal - Church
6:30 PM - Benediction Daily Chapel followed
by Divine Mercy Prayers

Friday, January 31st

8:30 AM - 3:30 PM Adoration of Blessed Sac Daily
Chapel
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM Queen of Hearts Sales Parish Office
8:45 AM - 10:00 AM Scripture Study #126
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Al-Anon Polish #153
8:00 PM - AA Pol #161

Saturday, February 1st

Narthex...Queen of Hearts Ticket Sales
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM AA #158/159
7 PM - Polish First Saturday Mass

Sunday, February 2nd

Narthex...Queen of Hearts Ticket Sales
Meet & Greet after the 10AM Mass - PLC
10:00 AM - Seventh Grade Family Mass
10:00 AM Children's Liturgy of the Word
10:00 AM Growing with God Preschool Program
3:00 PM Baptism - Church



LEAVING A LEGACY

A young man was surprised to find his sick and elderly grandfather planting a small peach tree in his backyard. When the young man asked his grandfather why he was planting the tree, the old man replied,
"Son, all my life I have eaten the fruit from trees that other people have planted. I figure I have an obligation to make sure there is some fruit around for others to enjoy."

FOUR WAYS TO LEAVE A LEGACY

Did you know there are four easy ways for you to remember your parish in your will?

1. **A Specific Bequest** – You can designate a certain amount of cash or specific assets to the parish.
2. **A Residual Bequest** – You can plan for the parish to receive all or a portion of your estate **after** other specific bequests have been distributed.
3. **A Percentage Bequest** – You can designate a certain percentage of the estate to go to the parish.
4. **A Contingent Bequest** – You can make the parish the recipient of a bequest if others named in your will are not living at the time of your death.

No matter how you decide to remember your parish, a gift from your will accomplishes several key benefits.

- It sends a strong message to your heirs that the Church played an important role in your life.
- It guarantees that your generosity to the Church will be continued even after you are gone.
- It provides important assistance to our parish.
- It may even provide tax benefits for your heirs.

Talk to your attorney or financial counselor today about the best way for you to remember our parish in your will or trust.

Mass Intentions

Sunday, January 26th

7:00 am	Vera Paul	Karen Opyd
	Parishioners of Saint Stephen	
8:30 am	Sharon Grill	Dcn. Pete & Jan VanMerkestyn
8:30 am	Peter J Marianovich	Helen Jovanovich
10:00 am	Robert Hannon	Elaine Lindenmeyer
10:00 am	Richard Lindenmeyer	Pauline Cotrano
11:30 am	Raymond Ziemnik	John & Ida DeJohn
11:30 am	Helen O'Heir	Mr. & Mrs. B Stone
1:00 pm	Halina Tylka	
6:15 pm	Frank & Aniela Bernas	Family

Monday, January 27th

8:00 am	Matthew Mathew	Family
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Tuesday, January 28th

8:00 am	Teresa Grober & Byron Grober	Family
8:00 am	Ruth Rychetsky	Mr & Mrs Rychetsky
8:00 am	A. T. O'Grady	Ken & Pat Weissmann

Wednesday, January 29th

8:00 am	Dolores Berger	Mike & Mary Moran
8:00 am	Nora Hannifin	Mike & Mary Moran

Thursday, January 30th

8:00 am	Sharon Grill	Zampillo Family
8:00 am	Blessings for Theresa Scheling	Garbaciak Family

Friday, January 31st

8:00 am	Salvatore La Margo	Family
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Saturday, February 1st

8:00 am	Norbert W. Brasky	Dolores Michalski
5:00 pm	Loretta Barry	Yedowfski Family
5:00 pm	Irene Skoniecke	Family
5:00 pm	Robert Kostal	Family
5:00 pm	Helen O'Heir	Nick & Pat Genardo

Sunday, February 2nd

7:00 am	Sharon Grill	Karen Opyd
	Parishioners of Saint Stephen	
8:30 am	Helen Ambrulavich	Rox & Tony Pantano
8:30 am	Diane Miller-Moore	Greg & Cathy Hannon
10:00 am	John F. Gonciarczyk	Robison Family
10:00 am	Louis Varlotta	Jack & Bev Novosel
11:30 am	Rev. Romuald Czajewski	Henry Czajewski
11:30am	Henryka Budra	Henry Czajewski
6:15 pm	Angelo & Helen Sirousa	Family



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

John Czerniak
Beth Daly, James (Jay) O'Reilly

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.



CALLING ALL MEN!
That Man Is You!
Returns
On Saturday,
January 25th

It's a New Year! Maybe it's also time for a NEW YOU! Why not consider making a New Year's Resolution to "nourish" your spiritual life at our weekly breakfast meetings?

The St. George **That Man Is You!** program has become a popular way for Catholic men to share their faith. More than 100 men representing at least seven different parishes in our local area have joined the group since we began this program in September of 2015.

Each week, we share a hearty "MAN-SIZED" breakfast, followed by a thought-provoking and often emotional video presentation. We then break into smaller groups of 6 to 10 men to discuss our reactions to that week's message. We always end our meetings promptly at 8:00 because we realize that most of our men have a busy weekend agenda.

If you weren't available before, please don't let that discourage you from joining us now. You don't need to commit to attending every week; just come whenever you can. If you did attend any of our previous sessions, please consider inviting a friend to join you for breakfast this Winter/Spring and help them discover a great way to start their weekend!

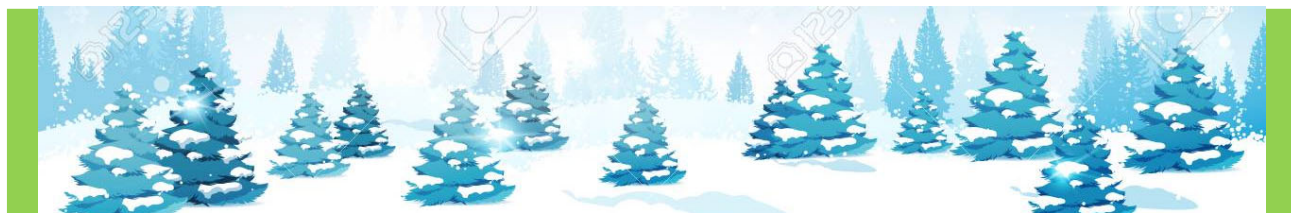
That Man Is You! meets on Saturday mornings in O'Connell Hall at St. George School. Breakfast is available beginning at 6:30 and our program starts at 7:00. ALL men, 18 and over, are invited and encouraged to attend. To learn more about TMİY, please contact Gary at (708) 614-1734; ghendzell@msn.com.



Weekend Masses: Saturday, 5PM and Sunday, 7AM, 8:30AM, 10AM, 11:30AM, & 6:15PM. 1PM in Polish
Daily Mass 8AM - Monday through Saturday
Sacrament of Reconciliation - Saturdays starting at 8:30AM and by appointment
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Thursdays 8:30AM - 6:30PM and Fridays 8:30AM - 3:30PM
Benediction & Divine Mercy Prayers - Thursdays at 6:30PM
Rosary 6PM - 2nd and last Tuesday of the month in English - 7PM every Tuesday in Polish
W ciągu całego roku Msza Św. w niedzielę w języku polskim jest o godz. 1pm
Pierwszy piątek miesiąca: Spowiedź od 6:30PM-7:30PM - Msza o 7:30pm
Pierwsza sobota miesiąca: od godz. 7:00-9:30pm

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 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.



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