

ST. STEPHEN

44 BRITTON STREET
WEST SALEM, OHIO 44287

Catholic Church

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone (419) 853-4946 • Website www.ststephen.ws • Email info@ststephen.ws

OFFICE HOURS Monday & Tuesday 9:00am-4:00pm
Thursday 9:00am-3:00pm
Please call the parish office to register.

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Rod Kreidler, *Presbyteral Moderator*pastor@stedwardashland.org
Fr. James Winings, *Parochial Vicar*jwinings@stedwardashland.org
Deacon Pete Foradori, *Parish Life Coordinator*deaconpete@ststephen.ws
Denise Behary, *Parish Secretary*secretary@ststephen.ws
Stephanie Arnold, *PSR Coordinator*
Patricia Foradori and Laura Fryman, *Organists*
Ronald Boehm and Logan Garman, *Maintenance*

PARISH COUNCIL — Christina King, Danielle Stiegelmeier,
Robert Williams, Marlene Zeigler, Christy Johnson, Tom Kilner

FINANCE COUNCIL — Sharon Gebura, Jim Linn,
Todd McKee, Joyce Smith, Joe Dempsey

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

Baptism of Children Please contact the parish office before the birth of your first child to prepare for this sacrament.

Baptism of Adults (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults or RCIA)

The process for becoming a Roman Catholic for adults and older children who have not been baptized or have been baptized in a different tradition. If you or someone you know is interested in learning about the Catholic Faith, please contact the parish office.

First Communion Celebrated every year after the children have completed sacramental preparation.

Confirmation Celebrated every other year for those in the eighth and ninth grades.

SACRAMENTS OF LOVING SERVICE

Marriages Please consult with the Priest or Deacon at least 6 months before the desired date is set.

Holy Orders Contact the parish office for information about the priesthood or the diaconate. We will also provide information about vowed religious life for men & women.

SACRAMENTS OF HEALING

Reconciliation Saturday, 3:00-3:45pm

Anointing of the Sick As needed, and as requested.

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Saturday Vigil..... 4:00pm
Sunday 10:30am

Weekdays Monday 8:00am
Tuesday No Mass
Wednesday 4:00pm
Thursday..... 8:00am
Friday No Mass

Holy Days — Consult bulletin for times

Eucharistic Adoration — Every Wednesday from 1:00pm - 8:00pm



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Through Him...

We celebrate the sanctity of life.

With Him...

We worship God as we prayerfully tend to the needs of body and spirit.

In Him...

We remain faithfully Catholic as a small rural parish community.

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 13, 2025

A Word from Fr. Jim

I hope that everyone had a blessed 4th of July Weekend. One of my favorite songs by Dierks Bentley goes by the name of “Sounds of Summer.” In it, he sings nostalgically of the many things that can be heard in the summertime: a tractor firing up, kids playing in the field, and lawn chairs breaking out in the yard while fireworks boom. For many, the summertime is marked by a greater sense of freedom as we are not as restricted in our activities by the weather, and longer hours of daylight permit us to accomplish and to do more. I’ve always thought of the 4th of July as a climactic celebration of that freedom.

American freedom is a wonderful thing. How blessed we are to be able to gather and to worship God without any fear of persecution, to be able to express our ideas freely and openly, to freely trade and pursue our own interests, and to enjoy the sounds of summer. But it can also have a shadow side to it.

Last year, I read a book by a Catholic political theorist, Patrick Deneen, entitled, “Why Liberalism Failed.” Liberalism, simply put, is the idea that freedom means doing whatever you choose, and that it is the government’s purpose to protect the individual’s freedom and autonomy. The book argues that while Liberalism served an important historical purpose in advancing the cause of liberty, its logic also undermines the bonds that have traditionally held societies together. He demonstrates how community, tradition, family expectations, and religion can come to be seen as enemies to “personal autonomy and freedom” in a liberal system because of the restrictions that they can place on personal identity.

Attending Mass is seen as a restriction on freedom, because there are other options that one may prefer on a Sunday morning. The Church’s teachings on sexuality and morality are viewed as burdensome, because someone may find them difficult to follow or they may not agree with them. The call to pray, fast, and practice charity can be seen as a limitation on personal autonomy, because they are coming from an authority outside of oneself. As people break free from the bonds of tradition and religion, they also become increasingly lonely and isolated, with over half of Americans reporting feelings of disconnection and 36% reporting “serious loneliness.”

How are we to engage with a “liberal” culture? It is important that we remember that community, tradition, and religion are not enemies to our freedom, but that they are meant to direct our freedom towards virtue and a shared notion of the common good. The more “religious” we become, the more human, the more fraternal, and the more we will also respect the freedom and autonomy of others, even if they disagree. Jesus never forced anyone to follow Him. He let the rich young man walk away, and He looked at him with love (Mk 10:21). Living the truth can be challenging and difficult; following the Church’s teachings is demanding, but it sets us free. This week, perhaps we can think of someone who may be feeling lonely and reach out to them to check in. I can think of no greater way to exercise our freedom.

Mass Schedule

Saturday, July 12 4:00pm Active Military & Veterans
Sunday, July 13 10:30am For the People
Monday, July 14 8:00am For the intention of
Zachary King (military)
Wed., July 16 4:00pm Bob Jack +
Thursday, July 17 8:00am Deceased Members of the
Sharp & Romaniuk Families
Saturday, July 19 4:00pm For the People
Sunday, July 20 10:30am Tracy Lenoff +

Readings for the Week of July 13, 2025

Scripture Readings

For the Week of July 13, 2025

Sunday Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dt 30:10-14; Ps 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37 or Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11;
Col 1:15-20; Lk 10:25-37

Monday Memorial of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin

Ex 1:8-14, 22; Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8; Mt 10:34--11:1

Tuesday Memorial of Saint Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Ex 2:1-15a; Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34; Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday Ex 3:1-6, 9-12; Ps 103:1b-2, 3-4, 6-7; Mt 11:25-27

Thursday Ex 3:13-20; Ps 105:1 and 5, 8-9, 24-25, 26-27; Mt 11:28-30

Friday Ex 11:10--12:14; Ps 116:12-13, 15 and 16bc, 17-18; Mt 12:1-8

Saturday Ex 12:37-42; Ps 136:1 and 23-24, 10-12, 13-15; Mt 12:14-21

Sunday Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gn 18:1-10a; Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 5; Col 1:24-28; Lk 10:38-42

The Week Ahead

Saturday, July 12

3:00pm Reconciliation
4:00pm Mass
7:00pm AA

Sunday, July 13

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:45am Rosary
10:30am Mass

Offertory Counter Team 5

Monday, July 14

8:00am Mass
6:00 pm Men’s Prayer Group

Tuesday, July 15

Wednesday, July 16

1:00-8:00pm Adoration
4:00pm Mass
5:30pm Meals & More

Thursday, July 17

8:00am Mass

Friday, July 18

Saturday, July 19

3:00pm Reconciliation
4:00pm Mass
7:00pm AA

Sunday, July 20

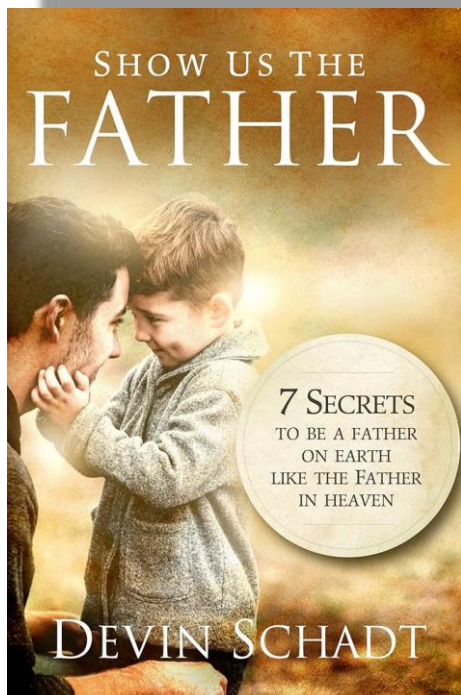
16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:45am Rosary
10:30am Mass

Offertory Counter Team 2

MEN'S BOOK STUDY

SHOW US THE FATHER



Location: St. Stephen Church, 44 Britton St

Dates: 2nd and 4th Mondays of the Month

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Who: Fathers and grandfathers of all ages, you never stop being dad



What would happen if every father discovered his true identity, power, and necessity?

A father's mission is to be a link between heaven and earth, between God and His children. He does this by becoming the voice of the Father that his children cannot hear, the face of the Father that his children cannot see, and the touch of the Father that his children cannot feel. This is his mission, his challenge, and his call to glory.

- July 14: Introduction
- July 28: Rediscover Fatherhood
- August 11: Set the pace of self-giving love
- August 25: Spiritually adopt your children
- September 8: Embrace the silence
- September 22: Work for God
- October 13: Sacrifice in Secret
- October 27: Build and Bless

Questions: Contact Fr. Jim Winings

Email: jwinings@stedwardashland.org



*Books will be provided



Please Remember the Sick in Your Prayers:
Mighty and Everlasting God, the eternal
salvation of those who believe in You, hear us
on behalf of Your servants who are sick, for
whom we humbly beg the help of Your mercy,

so that, being restored to health, they may render thanks to
You in Your Church. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Christopher Adamson, Ron Boehm, Ed Brazis, Pat Brown, Kerry
Cullin, Charly Dunn, Sandra Green, Richard Guenther, Ingrid
Hankinson, Joan Johnson, Carol Jones, Margie Keep, June Kost,
Ray Kusa, Jaimie Packard, Mia Preston, Betty Ross, Heather
Smith, Bonnie Yoho, and those on our prayer board.

Collection Report

June 29, 2025

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Offertory:	\$2,006.00	\$2,020.00	-\$14.00
Parish Use Only	\$505.00	\$960.00	-\$455.00
Peter's Pence	\$333.00		
Missionary Co-op	\$944.00		
Total:	\$3,788.00	\$2,980.00	-\$469.00

July 6, 2025

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Offertory:	\$1,798.00	\$2,020.00	-\$222.00
Parish Use Only	\$1,370.00	\$960.00	\$410.00
Peter's Pence	\$5.00		
Missionary Co-op	\$235.00		
Total:	\$3,408.00	\$2,980.00	\$188.00



Happy Birthday!!!

Be sure to wish a "Happy Birthday"
to the following members of our parish!!

Robert Mole (July 14), Thomas Nowak (July 14),
Michael Behary (July 16), Michelle Williams (July 16),
Lynn Bussell (July 18), and Hannah Foth (July 20).

Men's Prayer Group: The next Men's
Prayer Group will be on Monday, July 14th
at 6:00 p.m. Fr. Jim will lead the group in a
book study Show Us the Father. See the
insert for more information.



Meals & More Bakers this week:

Wednesday, July 16, 2025
Black River Ruritan Club



Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday, 1:00-8:00pm

"Do you realize that Jesus is there in the
tabernacle expressly for you - for you alone?
He burns with the desire to come into your
heart...don't listen to the demon, laugh at him,
and go without fear to receive the Jesus of
peace and love."

- St. Therese of Lisieux



First Saturday Devotion: The next First
Saturday Devotion will be at 3:00pm on
Saturday, August 2. Everyone is invited to
attend. Chrissy King is organizing the endeavor.
She has pamphlets available with more
information. She also can be reached at 216-308-1434.

PSR Registration:

Welcome to the 2025-2026 PSR Program! It's that time of year
again to sign up for St. Stephen's PSR Program. There will be
sign-up sheets in the Gathering Room for anyone who is
interested in signing their children up for PSR in the fall. Since
Mass time has changed, PSR time will change as well. The new
time will be 9:15 am to 10:15 am. Please feel free to invite
neighbors, friends, and family members to sign up. Please feel
free to reach out to Stephanie Arnold with any questions.
Thank you!!

Pilgrimage to St. Anne Shrine

Join fellow parishioners on a pilgrimage on Saturday, July 26.
Carpool to St. Paschal Baylon Parish for a 4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass
and walk through the Holy Door of St. Anne Shrine. You can
receive indulgences when following specific actions. An ice
cream social will follow, serving the ice cream flavors of the year
- Pilgrim Tracks and Jubilee Indulgence. Sign up if you are
interested in carpooling.

The Fest: Join us on August 3rd for the 25th Anniversary of
the FEST in Wickliffe, Ohio. The FEST is a day of faith,
family, and fun and is a FREE event! For more details, go to
www.theFEST.us.



New to the Parish?

We welcome all newcomers to our parish
and encourage everyone to register and get
involved. If you need to register or update
your information, clip the form below from
the bulletin, complete the information, and drop it in the offertory
basket. Someone from the office will reach out to you.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

I am new to St. Stephen: _____ Updating Info _____

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Patricia Foradori

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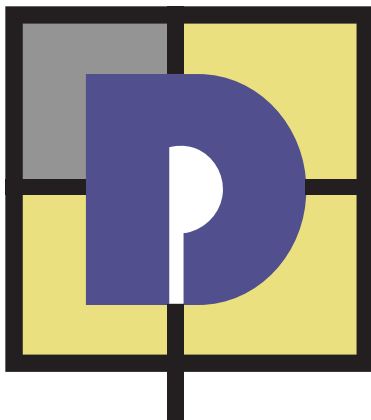
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