



St. Stephen's Parish <http://www.ststephenscroghan.org/>

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December 25, 2023 Christmas

God is with us! Jesus Christ is here among us in the first proclamation of the Nativity. In joy, we come to proclaim the birth of the Lord and celebrate the salvation that comes to us and is made available to everyone through him. God indeed does love us, for we are no longer left alone; forsaken or deserted. He is here in our presence. Let us open our hearts to the song of the angels and let Jesus enter in!

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



Saturday, December 23 (5:00 pm)

Kathy Widrick by Yvonne Kirschner

Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24 (4:00 pm)

People of the Parish

Christmas Day, Monday, December 25 (9:00 am)

People of the Parish

Tuesday, December 26-Thursday, December 28
No Daily Mass

Friday, December 29 (8:15 am)

Elmer & Jean Golden by Mike & Chris Tabolt

Saturday, December 30 (5:00 pm)

Susan Weaver by Joseph & Diane Csizmar

Sunday, December 31 (8:30 am)

People of the Parish

Your Support for The Parish

Adult Envelopes:	\$ 3,254.80
Plate:	\$ 853.00

Pray for the Sick

Bill Eades, Tina Wooschlager-Lavery, Doug Wolff, Jim Hall, Mason Queary, Venetha Houppert, Heather Lehman, Stella Updegraff, Tom Tooker, Everett Lehman, Shayleigh Proulx, Cindy Bush, Linda Bush, John Lashbrooks, and all ill at home, in the hospital, or nursing homes.

Sanctuary Candle



The Sanctuary Candle is lit in memory of

Kim Pominville

By

The Family

Merry
Christmas

The Giving Tree



Many, many thanks to the parishioners of St. Stephen's. This year we assisted 12 families (30 individuals) with gifts for Christmas morning. We also, through generous donations, provided gift cards to many families in need. Over 40 families or individuals received financial help. We are extremely grateful to everyone for making someone's Christmas more enjoyable.

"There is more happiness in giving than there is in receiving"
--Acts 20:35

Religious Education/Confirmation

Classes will resume on January 7, 2024, for grades K-9 after the 8:30 am Mass. Confirmation candidates will meet that night at 6:30 pm.

Teen Euchre Tournament and Game Night

Any college student or student in grades 9-12 is invited (as well as any of their friends) to a game night and Euchre Tournament. This will be held on Friday, December 29th beginning at 5 pm. Pizza and snacks will be provided as well as prizes for the winners! Please spread the word!

Knights of Columbus Shirts

The K of C is ordering dark green polo shirts with gold lettering for members at a cost of \$21 each. You may add your name for an additional \$5. Contact Bob Buholtz, Don Sauer, or Gil Monnat if you have any questions or would like to place an order.



"She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."
Matthew 1:21

Advent Wreath

Week 4- Love



The fourth week of Advent we remember the gift of Love we have in Christ. The light of the candles is meant to remind us of the love that God has for us. Jesus shows us God's perfect love. He is God's love in human form. The Bible says that "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life."

Love is patient, love is kind and envies no one. Love is never boastful or conceited, rude or selfish. Love is not quick to take offense, it keeps no records of wrongs, it does not gloat over other people's troubles, but rejoices in the right, the good, and the true. There is nothing that love cannot face, there is no limit to its faith, to its hope, to its endurance. Love never ends. (1 Cor 13) As we light this candle, we are reminded that we are called to show that love in the way we treat others.

Let us pray: Loving God, we thank you for your gift of love – shown to us perfectly in Jesus Christ our Lord. Help us prepare our hearts for the Lord's coming by loving others as Christ loves us. We ask this in the name of the one born in Bethlehem, Jesus our Lord. Amen



Christmas Mass Schedule

Anticipated Mass for the 4th Sunday of Advent:
Saturday, December 23rd at 5:00 pm

Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24th at 4 pm
Children will participate in the Christmas Story as the Gospel is read.

Christmas Day, Monday, December 25th at 9 am

**PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL NOT BE MASS ON
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH AT 8:30 AM**