



# St. Stephen's Parish

<http://www.ststephenscroghan.org/>

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Trustees: Susan Gydesen & Steve Monnat  
Finance Council Chairperson: Robert Buholtz

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays at 4:30 PM until 5:00 Mass

## April 12, 2026 Divine Mercy Sunday

Today, on the third Sunday of Easter, we hear the story of the two disciples who encounter the risen Lord as they walk the road to Emmaus. They listen to this stranger as he opens the scriptures to them, explaining that the Christ had to suffer and die before rising in glory. After inviting him into their home, they recognize him when he breaks bread with them at their table. Every Sunday we live out this experience. We listen to the risen Lord speak to us through God's word. Then we receive him in Eucharist. May we, like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, invite him into our midst.



**Saturday, April 11 (5:00 pm)**  
Kelly Garrison by Mom

**Sunday, April 12 (8:30 am)**  
Gabrielle Thomas by Mom & Dad

**Monday, April 13 (8:15 am)**  
Kevin Boliver by Robert Kirschner

**Tuesday, April 14 (8:15 am)**  
For the People

**Wednesday, April 15 (8:15 am)**  
Sue Demo Salmon by Rick & Marcie Buell

**Thursday, April 16 (8:15 am)**  
MaryAnn Lyndaker by Floie & Family

**Friday, April 17 (8:15 am)**  
Special Intentions by Ken Chartrand

**Saturday, April 18 (5:00 pm)**  
Barb Monnat by Kayden Barbarito

**Sunday, April 19 (8:30 am)**  
Edward & Juanita Briot by Children & Grand-Children

### Pray for the Sick

Phyllis Schwendy, Bob Peters, Jim Hall, Joe Bush, Patti Clemons, Howard Nortz, Susan Schwendy, Carolyn Schwendy, Mary Knight, Bruce Tabolt, Bruce Chapman, Peter VerSchneider, Bill Gracey, Caitlin Taylor, Priscilla Boliver, Kristi Lehman Marques, Deb Hartshorn, Alice Moore, Julie Fuller, Venetha Houppert, Tom Pate, Casey Kloster, John Lashbrooks, and all ill at home, in the hospital, or nursing homes.

### Your Support for The Parish April 4 and 5

Envelopes:	\$ 2,529.00
Plate:	\$ 1,124.00
Good Friday:	\$ 826.00
Easter	\$ 3,201.00

### Sanctuary Candle



*The Sanctuary Candle is lit in memory of  
Carl Schack  
By The Family*

### COFFEE HOUR

A coffee hour will be held this Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> after the 8:30 am Mass. The Isenecker and VerSchneider families will be hosting. Please join us!

## Divine Mercy Sunday

The message of The Divine Mercy is simple. It is that God loves us — all of us. And, he wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy.

The Divine Mercy message is one we can call to mind simply by remembering **ABC**:

**A** - Ask for His Mercy. God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour His mercy out upon us and upon the whole world.

**B** - Be merciful. God wants us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to extend love and forgiveness to others just as He does to us.

**C** - Completely trust in Jesus. God wants us to know that the graces of His mercy are dependent upon our trust. The more we trust in Jesus, the more we will receive.

This message and devotion to Jesus as The Divine Mercy is based on the writings of Saint Faustina Kowalska, an uneducated Polish nun who, in obedience to her spiritual director, wrote a diary of about 600 pages recording the revelations she received about God's mercy. Even before her death in 1938, the devotion to The Divine Mercy had begun to spread. The message and devotional practices proposed in the Diary of Saint Faustina are completely in accordance with the teachings of the Church and are firmly rooted in the Gospel message of our Merciful Savior. Properly understood and implemented, they will help us grow as genuine followers of Christ.

Spend time to learn more about the mercy of God, learn to trust in Jesus, and live your life as merciful to others, as Christ is merciful to you.

## Spring Clean Up Day

Bring your rakes, shovels, and yard tools to assist in cleaning up the parish lawns on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> beginning at 8 am.

## Guggenheim Summer Scholarships

Applications are available in the rectory entrance.

## Reminder to Stay Connected

We invite you to stay informed and connected with our parish community by following the **St. Stephen's Catholic Church** Facebook page. There you will find updates on Religious Education events, Sunday Scripture Readings and Reflections, as well as other important parish news and happenings. **Follow us on Facebook:** St. Stephen's Catholic Church, Croghan, NY or **Visit our website:** <https://ststephenscroghan.org>

## National Child Abuse Prevention Month

“All citizens were called to “renew our Nation’s commitment to meet the serious challenge that child abuse and child neglect pose to the welfare of our children and families.” For the Church, it is a time for us to acknowledge with humility and sorrow the wounds caused by clergy abuse and reaffirm our commitment to protect the most vulnerable. To every victim/survivor, I once again offer my sincere and heartfelt apology.”

“The Diocese remains steadfast in our promise to protect and pledge to heal. This is being achieved by adhering to our comprehensive child protection policy administered by our Safe Environment Office. Under the leadership of Mrs. Christine Cobb, the Safe Environment Office works in coordination with our parishes, Catholic schools and other diocesan related entities to ensure the full implementation and compliance with national and diocesan policies. By working together, we are creating a culture of compassion, accountability and restored trust.”

To read Bishop LaValley’s entire letter please go to: [SafeEnvironmentBishopsLetter.pdf](#)

## Many Thanks

Many thanks to all who participated in observing Lent, Holy Week and Easter here at St. Stephen’s Parish. These days were filled with many blessings for our parish life. Thanks to all who worked on mailing Easter Cards to our parishioners, attended Lenten daily Masses, Stations of the Cross, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the Rosary. Special thanks to all who helped decorate and prepare the church for Holy Week and Easter. Thanks to our musicians and our Liturgical ministers (Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Servers). Thanks to those who prepared meals for the Alpha gatherings.

I am most grateful to all parishioners who attended the Masses and services. The faithful participation of our parishioners here at St. Stephen’s is most impressive and inspirational. There is a special “spirit” that exists in our parish that creates an atmosphere of welcoming people.

## Planning Ahead for the Annual Lawn Social

Spring is here and the annual lawn social is fast approaching. Brandy Cummings would like to put a new spin on the basket raffle. Many in our community have been blessed with many talents the Lord has given. Let’s display them in our offerings to the lawn social. This could be a prepared meal, hand crafted items or any other handmade projects that you enjoy. Store bought gifts will still be accepted but let’s display our talents the Lord has provided. Please contact Brandy at 315-493-1914 if you have questions.